



Relay for Life kickoff,
preview of this year's event
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Approximately 200 people filled the Glass Pavilion to hear Jeffrey Toobin speak on the results of Tuesday's elections and other topics.

Toobin talks election in rescheduled MSE

By FRANK BRANCATI
Staff Writer

Jeffrey Toobin, legal analyst for CNN and staff writer for *The New Yorker*, spoke last night at the fifth event of the 2012 Milton S. Eisenhower (MSE) Symposium, providing

insight into the presidential election whose polls had closed just 24 hours earlier. The event, which drew a crowd of approximately 200 people to the Glass Pavilion, was rescheduled from Oct. 30 after Hurricane Sandy postponed the event.

"It's always a treat for me to be around intelligent and engaged students, and obviously this is a time when people's minds are very engaged with politics, so it's fun to talk about the election," Toobin said in an interview with *The News-*

Letter. "And I think it's a particularly interesting time to be in Maryland since Proposition 6 was such a big controversial and close question." "We really thought it would be great for the student body to hear a

SEE TOOBIN, PAGE A4

Pres. Obama's reelection electrifies Homewood

By NICOLE ZIEGLER
Staff Writer

At 11:15 p.m. on Tuesday, roaring cheers filled Maxie's Pizza Bar & Grill. Throughout the Homewood campus, students were celebrating and dancing. "Hail to the Chief" could be heard blasting outside dorms on the freshman quad. President Barack Obama was reelected as President of the United States after competing with Governor Mitt Romney in a close election.

Many students on campus were first-time voters, which heightened their enthusiasm.

"Since I was little, I accompanied my parents to the polls and it was so exciting that it was finally my turn," freshman Emily Schoenfeld said.

Students took it upon themselves to better understand the issues and ensure that they were educated voters.

"I researched the issues that were important to me, and the respective positions of the candidates," freshman Michael Weiss said.

Throughout Election

Day, students piled into vans, cabs and buses to attend polling sites and cast their votes. The Hopkins College Democrats drove students to the many voting sites throughout campus.

"I'd estimate we drove between 100 and 125, and I feel great about the turnout," junior Matt Stewart, President of the Hopkins College Democrats, said.

Hopkins students who did not have absentee ballots greatly benefited from the assistance in reaching the polls.

"The voting process was incredibly easy. It took less than 25 minutes

SEE ELECTIONS, PAGE A5

Daniels writes for marriage equality

By ELLEN BRAIT
Hip Hop Editor

President Ronald J. Daniels wrote an article in *The Baltimore Sun* on Nov. 1, establishing his support of Maryland Question 6, a same-sex marriage referendum that appeared on the Maryland ballot in Tuesday's election. The proposition passed on Tuesday night, legalizing gay marriage in the state. Maine and Washington also passed legislation instating marriage equality.

Daniels' article was not aimed at any one group in particular, but instead, those who were torn on the issue and needed another reason to vote "yes" to Question 6.

"I was doing this in support of the many people who are championing this proposition and recognizing what a tremendously important moment it is for the equality cause in the state and indeed, I think, in the country," Daniels said.

Sophomore Rachel Schnalzer, a member of the Hopkins College Democrats, believes that Daniels' article had an impact on both Hopkins and Baltimore.

"Awareness is key, particularly for college-age

SEE DANIELS, PAGE A4

Del Monte speaks on future of health care

By TONY WU
Staff Writer

Health Leads, an organization led by college students to connect low-income families to health insurance, food and shelter, invited Mark Del Monte, the lead attorney for the American Academy of Pediatrics, to speak about the possible implications Obama's reelection will have on the state of healthcare in the U.S.

With President Obama's re-election still fresh in the public mind, one important question remains unanswered: What will healthcare look like now that Obama is to lead the country for another four years?

What will health care look like now that Obama is to lead the country for another four years?

which Del Monte works played an instrumental role in urging the passage of the Affordable Care Act, something done during Obama's first term.

During Obama's presidency, this monumental reform in health care was initiated and eventually passed.

Commonly called "Obamacare," the Affordable Care Act aims to promote universal health care in our country.

Universal health care, however, is not a novel idea.

In fact, President Clinton sought to accomplish the same goal in 1993. Del Monte noted that it took the United States

SEE HEALTH LEADS, PAGE B7

Powder Puff finishes off Greek Week

By GEORGINA RUPP
Staff Writer

Phi Mu won the Powder Puff Football competition between sororities, which concluded Greek Week on Sunday after being postponed due to Hurricane Sandy. The event, hosted by the JHU Panhellenic Association, was held on the Homewood Practice Field on Sunday afternoon. Pi Beta Phi won Greek Week, overall.

The tournament consisted of three consecutive games. The first was between Alpha Phi and Kappa Kappa Gamma followed by a game between Phi Mu and Pi Beta Phi. The winners of the preliminary rounds — Kappa Kappa Gamma and Phi Mu — then faced off in a final round, with Phi Mu emerging victorious.

"No one scored a single touchdown against us," Phi Mu sophomore Meera Valliath wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Each Powder Puff team is coached by a different fraternity. The Phi Mu team

was coached by members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE), Alpha Phi by Alpha Delta Phi (Wawa), Kappa Kappa Gamma by Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) and Pi Beta Phi by Beta Theta Pi (Beta).

This was the sixth year that Powder Puff is in its current form on campus. "Prior to that, the teams were of mixed sorority affiliations and different classes played each other such as first year students vs. sophomores," Coordinator of Greek Life & Orientation, Rachel Drennen,

wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

To prepare for the event, members of the Panhellenic Council and JHU Greek life worked to reserve a field and schedule intramural referees to facilitate the event. From there, the success of the event is left mainly up to the sororities.

"The different sororities engage in a great deal of planning to prepare themselves for the tournament. The individual sororities select their

SEE POWDER PUFF, PAGE A5



COURTESY OF LAUREN FEURY

For the first time, Phi Mu came out victorious in Powder Puff Football.

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Eid Banquet celebrates, raises awareness

By JOHN DUROVNIK
For The News-Letter

On Monday, Nov. 5, members of the Hopkins Muslim Association (JHUMA) hosted a celebration of Eid al-Adha in the Glass Pavilion.

Although the calendar date of the Muslim holiday is Oct. 26, the JHUMA belatedly celebrated the religious holiday with a speech from President Daniels, student presentations regarding the history and significance of the date and a feast.

Both Muslim and Non-Muslim students gathered in the Glass Pavilion to celebrate Eid al-Adha and while food was plentiful, seating proved insufficient, requiring many participants to stand along the pavilion walls.

"I had no idea it was going to be this big. I thought it was going to be like twelve people or something. I was a little unprepared for this. So I'm personally very pleased," graduate student Aamir Ali said.

Ali, a second-year graduate student studying physics, kicked off the celebration with a retelling of the origins of Eid al-Adha. Eid al-Adha celebrates the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his first-born son, Ishmael, as a demonstration of his faithfulness in Allah. Confronted by a divine vision that commanded the sacrifice of Ishmael in veneration of God, Abraham submitted to God's will.

However, due to Abraham's willingness to obey God's command, Ishmael's body was replaced

with that of a ram, which was then sacrificed in his stead. Although the story of Eid al-Adha is ageless and unchanging, Ali recounted the traditional story in such a way to appeal to all members of the audience.

"I was really impressed with the speech he gave. I know the story of why people celebrate Eid but he described it in a way so that people who are not Muslim, or those outside of the culture, would know exactly what's going on," senior Jay Kane said.

The dinner, while primarily a celebration of Eid al-Adha, also brought together students who make up Hopkins' small Muslim population.

While JHUMA events allow students with similar cultural and religious backgrounds to come together, acclimating to an academic environment where many colleagues are unfamiliar with Islam can be difficult.

However, many Muslim students view this cultural disconnect as a means to share their beliefs.

"There aren't that many Muslims here, so that fact that I am a Muslim seems to interest a lot of people. Especially in the freshman class, there aren't many, so being a Muslim has really allowed me to show people another aspect of our culture," freshman Saman Baban said.

This propensity to share cultural and religious beliefs has given rise to a Muslim population that strengthens togetherness through piety.

"We have a prayer space and we get to do Jummah

prayers every Friday. It's an obligation and it's nice that people come together and do it together," freshman Metasem Aldmour said.

And yet, finding a balance between academic life and religious requirements can be difficult for some.

"Integrating [into the community] is fine. We have difficulties arranging our prayer times for the day because the break times and the lectures do not accommodate for prayers," graduate student Fatma Madouh said.

Although the Muslim population at Hopkins remains relatively small, Hopkins has moved to acknowledge the growing influence of Islamic cultures worldwide.

As President Daniels stated in his opening address, citing a Pew Research Center study, the world's Muslim population could increase by 35 percent by 2030 and could more than double in the United States during the same period of time.

Understanding this demographic shift, President Daniels underscored the need for Hopkins to develop an interdisciplinary recognition of Islam that reflects Islam's importance in today's world.

"Such a program would deepen our understanding of the history of Islamicate societies and

institutions and their rich cultural legacies in areas including art and poetry, law, philosophy and architecture," President Daniels said.

This would require dramatic expansions of the Arabic language program, the Arabic library collection, as well as joint efforts among departments such as anthropology, economics, history and philosophy.

"The Krieger School has already recruited faculty working in various areas of Islamic Studies. In fact, there are more scholars today working on Islam than on East Asia," Daniels said.

While the development of programs that highlight the cultural importance of Islam may strengthen students' understanding of Muslim communities worldwide, some believe that student familiarity with the Hopkins Muslim population should come first and foremost.

"What I do hope in the future is that there is still more project-based integration between not just Muslim communities, but faith-based communities as a whole. Just being out and about, doing projects in a general body and being more visible. I think that there's not much awareness that these communities really even exist or are doing things," Ali said.

There aren't that many Muslims here, so that fact that I am a Muslim seems to interest a lot of people.

--SAMAN BABAN

Model predicts power outages from Sandy

By ANDREA MICHALOWSKY
Staff Writer

Hopkins Assistant Professor Seth Guikema and a geographer at Texas A&M University led a team that predicted the power outages that Sandy caused within 15 percent. Their model, based on weather predictions, real-time data and data from 11 previous hurricanes, could help companies and emergency-response teams better prepare for hurricanes in the future.

The researchers predicted 10 million people would be without power while the storm was still over the Bahamas. They ultimately adjusted this estimate to 8-10 million. These results were close to the 8.5 million people without power, as released from the Department of Energy on Oct. 31.

"This estimate days before landfall provides a basis for utility companies and government agencies to better plan their response to the storm in terms of resources and personnel," Guikema said.

Guikema is leading the research along with Texas A&M geography professor, Steven Quiring. They have been working on this model since 2006 and plan to continue developing it.

"I'm not sure the model will ever really be completed," Guikema said. "We are constantly trying to improve the predictive accuracy of the model to better support emergency response and utility response planning."

Guikema has been at Hopkins since 2008.

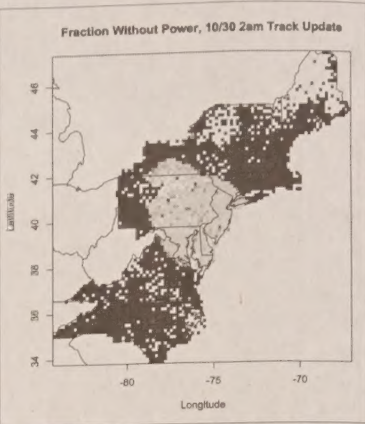
"JHU has provided a very strongly interdisciplinary place for this interdisciplinary research, and the students here have been very strong," Guikema said.

Guikema also works in industrial economics, risk management and planning for the University of Stavanger in Norway.

Guikema's interest in this type of modeling started as a postdoc at Cornell. He then went on to start at Texas A&M in 2005, where he met Professor Quiring. They started working on a model after a utility company approached them about developing a

power outage forecast system. Guikema and Quiring continue to receive funding from the company in return for letting the company use the models.

The model, which can predict outages three to five days in advance, is



COURTESY OF SETH GUIKEMA
Assistant Professor Guikema helped develop a model that accurately predicts power outages.

based on data from 11 historic hurricanes. This data, consisting of power outages in small grid cells, was used to train a statistical model to make future outage predictions given a wind field estimated from Quiring's wind field model.

"Our goal is to have a model that is useful in practice and helps society be better prepared for and respond to hurricanes," Guikema said.

The team initially worked with data from the sponsoring utility company; however, since 2011 they have been working with publicly available data to create a model that can predict outages all along the US coastline. Guikema and Quiring are still working to improve this later model and hope to add factors such as soil moisture, which are included in the utility model.

This broad-area model was first tested with Irene in 2011, but the results from this model were not released until the predictions made for Sandy last week. These predictions were within eight percent of the Department of Energy's predictions of the fraction of customers without power in New York, Rhode Island, Virginia, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. The model overestimated the number of people without power in Maryland and Delaware because of the lower-than-expected winds.

The researchers are still working to assess why the model underestimated outages in Connecticut and New Jersey.

Relay for Life sets goals for spring fundraiser

Annual event raises funds for American Cancer Society

By ALEXANDRA BALLATO
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Nov. 1, the Hopkins chapter of Relay For Life had its annual Kickoff event, marking the official start of its fundraising season for the American Cancer Society.

While largely an informational session, the Kickoff also drew in many new participants.

"Our Kickoff was successful. We nearly doubled the number of participants signed up online and got 7 new teams. It really helped us spread the word about Relay," Co-Chairs Rose Schrott and Joi Moore wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "We are definitely looking to have a bigger presence on campus earlier on in the year."

The large turnout at the Kickoff looks favorably upon Relay's participation goal for this year.

They hope to have 750 participants at the event, which is 50 more than last year.

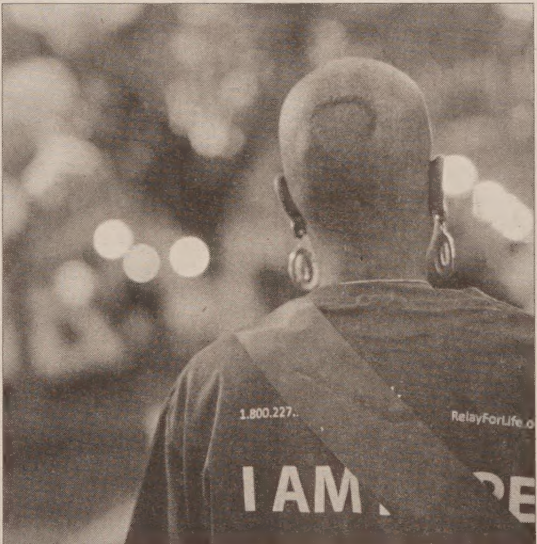
Relay participants from Hopkins are part of a larger member base of 4 million people from 20 countries around the world, fostering a sense of community both on campus and beyond in their common fight against cancer.

"We like how Relay brings together everyone on campus for one cause, and that's one of the reasons we want everyone to be involved," Schrott and Moore wrote.

Last year, Relay for Life raised \$60,000, but this year the bar for fundraising has been set higher, as has their participation goal.

"Our fundraising goal for this year is \$65,500. We are going to be doing more fundraisers throughout the year," Schrott and Moore wrote. "Our a cappella fundraiser from last year, Caroling for a Cure, will be called Harmonies for Hope this year."

On the night of the Relay, the Planning Committee facilitates a variety of events for participants.



FILE PHOTO

Relay for Life is held each spring to raise funds for cancer research.

"As always, the Survivor Lap and the Luminaria ceremony [are] emotional and inspiring. The silent lap around the track to view the illuminated Luminaria bags, each dedicated to someone touched by cancer, is often a tearjerker," Marketing and Publicity Co-Chair Alexa Mechanic wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "However, it is quickly followed by the 'Fight Back' ceremony, in which the crowd rallies to fight cancer and find a cure. On a lighter note, we had Miss Maryland, Miss D.C. and Miss Delaware run the Miss Relay pageant [last year], and we would love to do something with a celeb headline again this year!"

While student experiences with Relay for Life at Hopkins are mostly positive, the executive board hopes to improve on some past issues from previous years.

"As with any event, we encountered a couple of obstacles throughout the night. Our committee is on

the smaller side to begin with, so coordinating all of the activities was a bit of a struggle," Mechanic wrote. "We blew the speakers early in the night, so this is something we will definitely make sure to fix this spring. We also would have liked more teams to spend the night in the tents!"

Regardless of the speed bumps the Relay has overcome in the past, the event is important not only for those whose lives are affected directly by the American Cancer Society, but to those who are empowered by the prospect of uniting against cancer itself.

"I signed up for Relay freshman year because my high school never had one. Cancer is such a scary disease, and I felt as though I should do everything in my power to fight it," Mechanic wrote. "The cause has become very personal to me, and it feels good to know that I'm working to find a cure for a disease that has unfortunately infiltrated our society."



FILE PHOTO

The overnight event brings together students from various organizations.

JHMI shuttle delays due to water main rupture

By MARY KATHERINE ATKINS
News & Features Editor

A five-foot water main at the intersection of North Charles and 20th Street ruptured on Wednesday morning before 8 a.m., causing delays on the Hopkins Homewood-Peabody-JHMI shuttle.

The rupture caused water to rush down North Charles Street, resulting in road closures as far as Penn Station at the high point of the flooding. Several cross streets were also closed. Drivers were advised to avoid the areas impacted by flooding.

Consequently, the road closures led to delays in the JHMI schedule in the morning and in the afternoon.

"I know there were de-

lays early in the afternoon, but the operating of the shuttle made some quick adjustments and tried to get things back on schedule as the afternoon progressed," Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs Dennis O'Shea said.

Aside from the JHMI delays, Homewood was largely not impacted by the rupture.

However, the ruptured main, which was installed during the 1920s, has led the city of Baltimore to reflect on its overall aging infrastructure problems, according to *The Baltimore Sun*.

"It's big and it's bad, and we need more money for water infrastructure," Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake told *The Baltimore Sun*.

Collegiate ACB returns to Hopkins

By ELIZABETH ARENZ
Staff Writer

This past September, the Johns Hopkins forum of the Collegiate ACB website was reinstalled after being shut down last year. The site has pages for several hundred schools, the majority of which are in the U.S., and touts a policy of almost no regulation.

The site's homepage describes it as, "The Anonymous Communication Board for college students throughout the country to discuss anything."

The first post on the Hopkins page appeared on Sept. 15; in the two months since, there have since been 420 posts on 79 different topics. Most of them address the standard tropes of college life — sex, fraternities, alcohol and the like — written in varying shades of hostility, satire and explicitness.

"[H]ow does [H]opkins have so many hideous people? Of both genders... it can't be possible that people are this ugly," one thread reads. "Reading those threads on hottest girls in sororities, it's pretty sad what passes for attractive here..."

The website prides itself on its lack of regulation, which, for many, makes for an entertaining environment — ideal for fostering gossip. Some at Hopkins, however, are uncomfortable with the way the University may be portrayed to potential students or the general public.

In an Oct. 10 post titled "Negative Publicity," a user named Hop_Admin addressed this concern. There is no proof that this user is actually a member of the administration, as the site is anonymous.

"I realize that much of what you're posting here is in good fun, but I would urge you to consider the University's reputation before you post... Remember, this forum is available to the public, and thus to prospective students. We in admissions strive to present the best possible image to the world, and I'm afraid to say that some of you are damaging our reputation."

The alleged administrator went on to inform

students of the legal consequences that may come from posts of defamation.

"Some posts (especially those regarding specific students!) may be construed as libel, a grave violation of University policy...and a serious crime," the poster continued.

While the University was able to regulate JHU Confessions to a certain extent, Collegiate ACB's policies make it problematic for Hopkins as it disregards the degrading nature of the majority of posts on its website. According to the site, its goal "is to remain completely un-moderated."

Its statements are contradictory, aiming to protect the site from the law that individual posts may break by denying ownership and responsibility, but also claiming it still regulates the writing in threads.

"CollegiateACB is not responsible for any material appearing on its website," a disclaimer on the site reads. "Despite this ownership, CollegiateACB retains the right to remove any content."

In efforts to avoid following of JuicyCampus, a similar gossip site that was subpoenaed by New Jersey in March of 2008 and then went offline for fiscal reasons in early February the following year, Collegiate ACB has a "report" button. This allows anyone to notify a moderator of an inappropriate post through an explanatory email. Additionally, users may also "like," "dislike" and quote other posts.

JuicyCampus, though reinstated this past March, is largely unused and irrelevant, with its most recent post dating to January 24, 2012.

Robert Turning, Director of Student Involvement, said that though he does not look at the site, he does know that there were previously two competing sites and that the university protects itself from websites that use "JHU" in their web addresses.

"JuicyCampus got shut down on their own accord but College ACB might have used 'JHU' in their domain," he said.

Senior Joanna Gawlik

stated her concerns regarding the website but also shared her opinion that Hopkins may need a forum of some sort.

"There might be a need on this campus for a forum for students to communicate but Collegiate ACB is not the right way since it is not moderated and only has toxic posts that are gross, inappropriate and vulgar."

Gawlik suggested Facebook groups as an alternative, which did not exist when she first arrived at the University, because they seem to contain less destructive commentary and are more closely regulated.

Junior Brooke Townsend recalled her frustration when she found a post about her on the previously popular site, JHU Confessions, as a freshman.

"Initially you wonder who's out there who hates you enough to write something like that. Everyone finds it easy to hide behind a computer but I remember talking to an older girl who reminded me that no one ever looks at the site past freshmen year."

Senior Alice Korevaar has also had posts previously written about her. "Hopefully nobody reads that much into it. People say mean things but nobody trusts it."

Korevaar said that the site used to be very popular.

"All of the frats had accounts, and a group of guys on my freshmen floor also had an account."

Several weeks ago, sophomore Erica Lee opened the website to an unwelcome greeting: she found herself to be the subject of several particularly lurid threads, which spread rumors of her sexual behavior and jeered at a recent visit she took to the hospital.

"Those who posted on the website have no clarity in writing and blatantly lack the ability to articulate themselves in a logical or decent manner," Lee said. "I was at the hospital because I had an inflammatory reaction to a cream I was using on my skin."

Still, there is little she can do about the content itself.



COURTESY OF ELLEN BRAIT
Families gathered in Hampden in eccentric costumes for the neighborhood's annual halloween celebration.

HalloweenFest draws families

By ELLEN BRAIT
Hip Hop Editor

The Annual Hampden HalloweenFest took place from 5pm until 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 3. The event, which was originally scheduled to take place earlier in the week was delayed due to Hurricane Sandy.

From 5pm to 6pm, the Hampden Village Merchants Association sponsored trick-or-treating along W. 36th Street, Falls Road and Chestnut Avenue. Various stores took part and gave out candy.

"The change in date was really last minute because of the storm but there's still a good turn out tonight," Debbie Stoll, who gave out treats on behalf of the store Kiss N' Make-Up, said.

She explained that the event has been happening for approximately 40 years and has always been a success. Several merchants participated, and those in costumes ranged in age greatly, making the event accessible to many in the community.

Following the trick-or-treating, from 6pm until 8pm, there was a Halloween Costume Contest sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Hampden-Midtown and the Circle K Club from Hopkins. The event took place in front of Ma Petite Shoe.

Barricading the streets off for the contest took

longer than planned, but by 6:15pm, the event was underway.

Contestants were divided into various age groups, ranging from two and under to 18 plus. Each age group was called forward and asked to walk around the judges.

After they had been judged, winners were announced and trophies were given to the best costumes in each age group. Prizes were given out for the prettiest, scariest and most original costumes in each age group except for those over 18. For the 18 plus category, only one trophy was awarded.

The Hopkins Circle K Club, a group dedicated to helping the Baltimore community, judged the event. The group aims to help by mentoring and

by Kiwanis International, has participated in Hampden HalloweenFest for a few years now.

"I thought the event was a success. It had to be rescheduled and so there were fewer people than last year, but I thought it was a great turnout," Junior Elizabeth Garcia, a member of the Circle K Club, said.

The costumes were diverse in not only the age groups wearing them but also in content. Everyone at the event had a different opinion on who should have won.

"A tree. Someone was dressed as a tree and it was really well done," Stoll said, regarding her favorite costume.

Garcia preferred the scary costumes.

Pictures of all the



COURTESY OF ELLEN BRAIT
Trophies were awarded at the HalloweenFest by age group in a variety of categories

teaching Baltimore youth. Their three primary goals include service, fellowship and leadership.

Members are urged to volunteer a minimum of 10 hours a semester. The club, which is sponsored

costumes were taken throughout the event and can be found on both the Ma Petite Shoe and Hampden HalloweenFest Facebook pages. The event is scheduled to take place again next year.

Fish's presentation suggests possibilities for improving student social lives

By JULIA FELICIONE
Staff Writer

Alan Fish, the Vice President of Real Estate and Campus Services, spoke at the Student Government Association (SGA) meeting in Mason Hall on Tuesday.

Fish informed the SGA

that the current road construction is an integral part of a five year engineering plan to improve student safety, social life and overall school spirit.

Fish conducted a "My Campus Interactive Survey" in Jan. 2012, which reported on students' favorite hangout spots.

"I have to say, you guys are doing a lot of socializing in the classrooms... the top place that [students] socialize is in the library," Fish said. "The second highest was in the dorms...this tells us many things, but above all it tells us that we don't have many great spaces for stu-

dents to socialize."

To increase the quality of student social life and decrease the number of late-nights in the library, he proposed that a hotel be built on the Olmstead Lot, across the street from Barnes and Noble.

"One of the benefits of a hotel is that it will bring in really great restaurants that want to be in Charles Village," Fish said. "As well as other services to support the travelers that will be there, giving students some more local options when they want to hang out."

In addition, Fish plans to build student life centers and cafes at Homewood using the space between the Mattin Center and the Beach.

He wants to move all academic offices out of the Mattin Center, place those uprooted offices in Levering and move the Levering Food Court into the newly liberated space.

Fish seeks to turn Charles Village into a safe-haven for students looking to unwind.

"I think that Charles Village is the best place, geographically, for student socializing because you have the Beach and the Charles Street Market and many of the dorms right there," Fish said. "Now, with the addition of Brody Learning Commons, it

seems to be the most natural progression. By doing this, we can resuscitate our school spirit and make Charles Village the heart of campus life."

With the image of a revitalized Charles Village in mind, Fish also wants to widen sidewalks on both North Charles and 33rd Street.

This would decrease the overall traffic flow through campus. He also plans to lay down brick crosswalks, adding to campus safety as well as campus aesthetics.

"When you walk out into Charles Village, you don't feel like you're at Hopkins, you feel like you're out on the streets of Baltimore...we'd like to change that," Fish said.

Fish would also, if possible, like to remove 34th street entirely and turn the space into a walk-through plaza. This would allow residents of Wolman, McCoy and Charles Commons to feel like they are a part of Homewood Campus.

This plan, however, will be hard to execute due to legal disputes with the city of Baltimore and the possibility of insurmountable inconveniences to the surrounding residential area.

All of Fish's plans, if successful, will be completed within five years.

The first project Fish plans to tackle will be the Olmstead Lot. Fish has interviewed three third-party developers interested in funding Student Life in these endeavors. He will be selecting a developer within the coming months with the hopes of beginning construction by next year.

"We hope to build the hotel without Johns Hopkins' investment, using solely the third party developer. We plan to finance our street constructions with the city, the third party developer, and the University combined," Fish said.

The majority of the SGA members showed enthusiasm for the new building plans.

Fish also discussed alternatives to the current underclassmen housing plans, however the SGA almost unanimously felt that the current housing plans are sufficient.

In addition to Fish's presentation, the SGA also discussed the possibility of creating a new way to enter the Recreation Center and the library without a J-Card. No definitive plans were made.

Other subjects discussed at the SGA meeting included Security Week, the upcoming food truck event and future class parties.

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CATHERINE GUENTHER/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Toobin addressed a crowd in Shriver Hall last night, discussing Obama's win and marriage equality.

Toobin discusses the election

TOOBIN, FROM A1
political expert right after the election, which is why we brought Mr. Toobin," Chris Alvarez, co-chair of the Symposium, said.

The said political expert began his discussion extemporaneously.

"So here's the deal. I have a whole prepared speech on the Supreme Court, which I'm not going to do, because this was just an epic day in American history," Toobin said.

"The two things I want to talk about [tonight] are Obama and marriage equality, because I think both are of epic importance, both in immediate and historical perspectives," he continued.

He went on to discuss the importance of President Obama's campaign and reelection.

He elaborated on how Obama was unable to focus on the personal character that had elevated him to victory in 2008, having to run a more "conventional" campaign in order to a second term.

The President's victory speech, Toobin said, captured the spirit of the 2008 campaign and the essence of Obama's character.

"He's someone who wants to do big things and is someone who doesn't like pettiness and who doesn't like smallness. I think he is now someone who is back to doing big things," Toobin said.

He addressed the historical significance of the Affordable Care Act. It is likely, he said, that Obama will work towards making his health care bill something akin to Social Security -- marking a major accomplishment for the Democratic Party and making a crucial impact on those currently without health insurance.

Toobin then shifted his discussion to what he felt

was the other major facet of Obama's reelection: its social implications.

"The other part of what Obama is going to do as a second term president is really hasten the transition of the United States from one kind of society to another," he said.

He clarified this statement by explaining how he felt that the Obama Coalition comprised a diverse group of people who in America's past had been under represent, but are a growing part of America. He also examined the important shift to a more liberal mentality across America.

From this point, he transitioned to the topic of marriage equality and the major accomplishments that have been made by this social movement.

Toobin cited that fact that of the four states who had the issue of marriage equality on the ballot Tuesday, all four voted in favor of pro-marriage equality.

He talked about the thirty previous times marriage equality had been on a ballot in America and how it had been voted down, and that these four states mark an amazing shift in the countries social views.

"The country is changing so fast in this one area," Toobin said.

Toobin gave an anecdote dealing with the decision of Loving v. Virginia, the 1967 Supreme Court case that ruled interracial marriage as something states couldn't ban.

He paralleled this decision with the current state of affairs, arguing that the results of the previous night's election mark a major step towards a "tipping point moment" -- attributing the term to his New Yorker colleague Malcolm Gladwell -- with regards to gay marriage.

Toobin closed his speech with some remarks on the case of Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, better known simply by the name of the appellant, and the impact of Tuesday's election thereon.

He expressed how he felt that the outcome of the Citizens United case has a major impact on the country as a whole.

Regarding its effective claim that "money is speech," Toobin explained how the ability for corporations to give unlimited donations poses a danger to politics.

"The only way I think its going to be cut back is if a president appoints Supreme Court Justices who will elect to cut it back. Now we are going to have a president for the next four years who is opposed to Citizens United and if he has the chance will appoint justices who are likely to cut back on it," Toobin said.

During the question and answer period that followed, Toobin answered a wide range of questions.

He addressed the nature of politics within the Supreme Court, the Electoral College (calling it "awful at all times,"), the National Popular Vote Compact, Puerto Rican statehood, and personal nature of the Supreme Court Justices.

One of the questions that elicited a very lively response for Toobin dealt with his time covering the O. J. Simpson case, inquiring about a theory that Jason Simpson, son of both the murdered and accused, had committed the crime.

"The technical term for that is 'a load of s**t,'" Toobin said.

This, along with his comments about his "favorite" Supreme Court justice David Souter, was met with a wave of laughter from the audience.

Daniels supports gay marriage

DANIELS, FROM A1

students," she said.
Daniels is originally from Canada, the fourth country in the world to legalize same sex marriage. He believes that this was probably an influence on the urgency this issue now has in the United States.

"In a sense, this is the moment, this has been a long slow march for equality and this is the moment where we all must not falter," Daniels said in an interview with The News-Letter.

His wife, Joanne Rosen, is a human rights lawyer and dealt with various cases involving discrimination against LGBT individuals while in Canada. This gave Daniels an up close view of the situation.

"Seeing that the sky didn't fall and that the

business."

Junior Matt Stewart, President of the Hopkins College Democrats, said, "Many people probably do not think about the effect that such a policy will have in the business realm, so I thought it was interesting to learn why this issue is beneficial for reasons other than basic fairness and equality."

Daniels thought that as a head of an institution that is the largest private employer in the state, he had credibility in structuring the argument the way he did.

He argued that with marriage equality legalized in Maryland, Hopkins would be in a better position to recruit LGBT scholars, teachers, and researchers at the top of their fields. He quoted past experience at the University of Pennsylvania, where they recruited many of the faculty from the University of Wisconsin after a vote to deny ex-

he does believe that Hopkins is one of the most welcoming schools at this current time.

"I think that Hopkins has been at the very forefront of institutions who are providing just and appropriate support for LGBT citizens and making sure that we are not discriminating on the basis of their sexual orientation," Daniels said.

Although he does not claim to know all of the activities on campus, he has had discussions with students in casual settings on LGBT issues and their thoughts on them. He believes there is a core group of students who are especially invested in the issue and are working to make progress on it.

"I'm enjoying working to support their interests," Daniels said.

Groups on campus that work closely with LGBT students, like DSAGA (Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance) are very appreciative of Daniels' public declaration. He has worked closely with LGBT efforts in the past.

Junior Erika Rodriguez, Co-president of DSAGA, said, "It's different to say you are in support of something. It's something completely else to broadcast it in a national newspaper. I thought that was really touching."

On the day of the election, during his interview with The News-Letter, Daniels expressed his hopes that Proposition 6 would pass and expressed his frustration that he could not vote, himself, as a Canadian citizen. He explained that at every opportunity he urged people to vote because of the important propositions at stake. It didn't even matter to him who they decided to vote for, just that they got out and made their opinions known.

"I'm really hopeful ... that Maryland will be one of the first, if not the first, state to adopt marriage equality by way of popular vote," Daniels said.

Later that night, Daniels' wish became reality when Maryland passed Proposition 6. The efforts of Daniels, and many like him paid off and same sex marriage is now legal in Maryland.

It's something ...
to broadcast it in
a national
newspaper. I
thought that was
really touching.

ERIKA RODRIGUEZ,
CO-PRESIDENT OF
DSAGA

health care to same sex partners was enacted.

It would even help to recruit straight employees, as many people would prefer working in a state where everyone has the same basic rights.

For his actions, he has received both praise and critiques. However, he does believe that the majority of people have been supportive and appreciative. Schnalzer and Stewart both expressed pride in having a University president who was so publicly supportive of a controversial issue.

Stewart said, "My immediate reaction to President Daniels' Sun article was how great it is to have a University President in support of marriage equality."

"There have been a few high fives when I've been on the campus," Daniels said.

Hopkins itself, is a very accepting environment, according to Daniels. Although, there are always improvements to be made,

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Students react to Obama’s reelection

ELECTIONS, FROM A1

for me to reach the polling site, vote and return to campus,” freshman Adam Eckstein said.

Anticipations were high as students gathered at Maxie’s Pizza Bar & Grill for an Election Party event hosted by the Hopkins College Democrats, late Tuesday night.

“It was super exciting to be at Maxie’s. All the students were packed around the televisions and everyone was cheering as the results were announced throughout the night. Right now at Maxies, it doesn’t seem to matter who you voted for. I feel like what counts is that we all participated in this important election,” freshman Noah Landesberg said.

Many students cast their own predictions about the results the election would yield. “I’m feeling good about the election tonight. I have been watching Florida because, according to several election polls, it’s one of the key states to win,” freshman Luke Axiotakis said early in the evening.

Upon President Barack Obama’s reelection, students at Maxie’s could be seen hugging, jumping and celebrating with one another. The Hopkins College Democrats were excited about the success that came from their dedication to the election. “I feel great! I am so happy right now. We put so much work into the election this semester. We really put so much effort into Obama getting reelected,” Stewart said.

“We’re ecstatic because we’re obviously really happy about the outcome of the election, but also be-

cause we got such a great turnout from the Hopkins community,” said Sophomore Jordan Carmon, Vice-President of the Hopkins College Democrats.

Since Johns Hopkins is so close to Washington, D.C, some students got to watch the results and celebrate in our nation’s capital. “As soon as the CNN projected the results, all of Washington ran through the streets and towards the White House. It was amazing to see people from around the world, speaking so many languages and with so many accents, celebrating. It was absolutely packed outside the White House. Everyone was filming and photographing what was going on around them. People were even climbing trees,” freshman John Durovsik said.

Beyond the election itself, students were excited about the many other issues that were voting on in this past election.

Some students reacted passionately to the legalization of marijuana in Colorado and Washington.

“Amendment 64 is a positive step, legislation that will help the destigmatization of a drug that has clearly been less destructive than alcohol. Smoking marijuana is no more dangerous for your health than eating fast food every day: if you do either without discretion, there can be consequences. But now, people don’t have to go to stupid, irresponsible lengths to conceal their usage — they will, however, learn discretion, once the resource is plentiful and legal. Just because alcohol is available to me every day doesn’t mean I drink at every turn; the

same will go for weed in Colorado and Washington,” sophomore Andy Vargas wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Many students rejoiced over the passing of Question 6 on same-sex marriage in Maryland, especially those who voted in-state.

“After I voted, I was overjoyed when Maryland approved the same-sex marriage act. I couldn’t believe that I contributed to such a historic moment in marriage equality,” Eckstein said.

Students who live in Maryland connected with the outcome on a personal level.

“To be honest, I wasn’t really surprised that Obama won Maryland. There is a large democratic population, especially in Baltimore,” sophomore Selena Guerrero-Martin wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. “It’s really exciting that our state is one of the first to offer marriage equality to all people. I think that it gives the people who are affected by this battle for the right to marry whomever they choose a lot of hope that state legislatures are taking them seriously and doing what they can to make change to all for this equality.”

Students from states other than Maryland were also interested in the victories of candidates vying in the elections for Senate.

“One of the highlights of my night was when Elizabeth Warren was elected senator. She is such an inspiration to young women, like myself, and I cannot wait to see what great things she will do in Massachusetts,” Schoenfeld said.



JASMIN GONZALEZ/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Phi Mu, one of the four participating sororities, defeated Kappa in order to win their first Powder Puff title.

Sororities compete in Powder Puff

POWDER PUFF, FROM A1

own players and captains. They select their own coaches, memorize game plays, and have practices in the weeks leading to the tournament. Often, fraternities offer to coach sororities and then the chapters come to the event to support their teams,” Drennen wrote.

Deanna Cotsalas, Vice President of the Panhellenic Council and Pi Beta Phi member, was happy with her team’s preparations.

“Pi Beta Phi trained for several weeks with several practices a week. We were coached by Beta Theta Pi. We grew as a team and a sorority during the process having spent several practices conditioning, learning positioning, and running plays,” Cotsalas wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Drennen was also impressed with the participants’ training. “Each sorority had a unique training process for this year’s Powder Puff match up determined by their captains and coaches. Many of them engaged in conditioning and structured practices prior to the event,” she wrote. “Sometimes when I walked to my

office in the morning over the past few weeks, I saw teams at 8:00 am practice on the Freshman Quad. The chapters definitely take it very seriously!”

Teams had a lot of team spirit.

“We all had matching uniforms, as did all of the sororities,” Cotsalas wrote. “Pi Phi encourages total chapter participation, so we also had our very own cheerleaders.”

The event was well attended with plenty of supporters enjoying the free coffee and donuts and cheering for their friends on the field.

Sophomore Harriet Green enjoyed the event.

“I’m really impressed at how hard they seem to have trained,” Green said. “They have really honed their skills to the nth level.”

Drennen was impressed with the turnout. “The event went very well!” she wrote. “I was impressed with the players’ and coaches’ dedication; I was also impressed by the number of students who came out to support their teams. We owe a big, big thank you to the Recreation Center for letting us use the facility and to

Intramurals and Sport Clubs for the awesome referees.”

Cotsalas was similarly positive about the event. “Powder Puff is an event that all the sororities look forward to every year,” she wrote.

“Besides uniting us as a team, it also unites the Greek community as a whole. The fraternities and sororities bond during practices and the games. Then the sororities get to talk about stories from the year prior and laugh about team similarities. It is a great way to bring everyone together.”

For Valliath, last Sunday’s Powder Puff tournament was not just a way to bring people together but was a lot of fun.

“Walking out onto the field on game day, I think we were all anticipating defeat,” she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. “But from the first play on, we had this unstoppable momentum. Everyone was on top of their game and having a great time. Honestly I have never understood football; I tried out Powder Puff on a whim, and I have loved every minute of it.”

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The Elections, Harry Potter and Problems Hopkins Girls Have



The Dark Lord @Lord_Voldemort7

6 Nov

Happy Election Day, America! The number of political ads you'll be subjected to today will be more painful than the cruciatus curse.

Voldy voldy Voldemort – you have my sympathies. Today, I tried to live my life normally while everyone around me blabbed about election predictions. I'm sorry, but I'm sitting in class trying to listen to the professor (and simultaneously write my poem due tomorrow), but everyone's on CNN.com and their glowing laptops are distracting! But now that it's finally 8pm, the CNN election map on my computer is heating up. As I compose this tweet blurb, my peripherals work to catch the red and blue lights that magically appear on the map at some arbitrary moment. Alohamora! A light! It's actually kind of exciting... AND THE VERDICT IS IN! (see tweet below)



Barack Obama @BarackObama


33m

Four more years. pic.twitter.com/bAJE6Vom





Unofficially the most popular tweet of all time. Now, I'm going to let this picture do all the talking...




Hopkins Girl Probz @HopGirlProbz

1 Nov

It's #NoShaveNovember guys!! ☐ Just another opportunity for Hopkins boys to look even more grungy... #hopgirlprobz

Whoever invented No Shave November definitely went to Hopkins – it's clearly a ruse to give boys more time to do their problem sets in the morning (and to show Hopkins girls that they can actually grow beards). But I think @HopGirlProbz speaks for most of us when we say, "Boys – Please Shave November."



UberFacts @UberFacts

1h

For the past decade, Daniel Radcliffe has been allergic to the glasses he wore as Harry Potter! bit.ly/SSbdQX

Pshh Harry Potter is a drama queen – upon clicking this link, it appears he just got a little rash on the bridge of his nose (and some pimples). I'm sure his biggest concern was Ginny's thoughts on his whiteheads. Personally, I wonder why Hermione couldn't just erase the rash when she fixed his glasses in the first movie. Be gone scary red bumps!



Hannah Decatur
Tweets of the Week

This weekly column features some of the top posts around the Twitter realm that deal with the week's top stories in sports, politics, pop culture and all things news.

Blackberry tarts
right out of France

- Utensils:
- 1 Round Mold
 - 1 Salad Bowl
 - 1 Pot (any size)
 - 1 Oven
 - 1 Stovetop Burner
 - 1 Spatula/Spoon/Fork, used to mix
- Ingredients:
- 1 cup Butter (so, 2 sticks of 8 tbsp. each)
 - 3 cups Flour
 - 1 cup Sugar
 - Raspberry Jam
 - Enough blackberries to cover the surface of the mold (1 or 2 boxes should suffice)

dough across the whole mold, even if that means you end up with a little extra. The proportions listed under ingredients are about right, but the quantities are very approximate as they are completely dependent on the size of your mold.

Set your burner to high and place the pot on it. Throw the butter in there and let it melt.

While that's happening, prep the mold by just rubbing a bit of butter and flour (not from the ingredients you set aside) on it. This will make your life easier when you try to get the tart out of its mold.

You should preheat the oven now, setting it to 356°F (180°C).

Pour the flour and sugar in a salad bowl and use the spatula/spoon/fork to mix them. Then, make a small well in the middle of your mix, and pour part of the melted butter in. The well will make it slightly easier to mix. Keep mixing as you add the rest of the melted butter. You should now have a solid, uniform, yellowish "ball" of dough. Make sure the flour is fully blended with the dough. Now all you have to do is put your hands in there and knead the dough for a few minutes.

Once you're done, spread your dough evenly across the mold. Make sure it is not too thick by pushing on it with your palm. Push the dough against the sides of the mold. Scrape off all the extra dough, and either throw it away or eat it (you might get diabetes with just one bite, but it will be worth it).

If you haven't already, preheat your oven at 356°F. Once it is hot, leave the mold and dough in there for about 30 minutes, checking on it periodically.

Once this is done, all that remains is to pour the raspberry jam onto the pastry. Then you can place the blackberries on the jam and you have a delicious blackberry tart! The best part is that it doesn't work exclusively with raspberry jam. Any kind of berry jam is fine. Or even honey if you want! This is a great time to get creative with your baking!

The first thing you need to do is make the dough. Usually, it's best to make sure you can spread the

Victor Allard
Foreign Correspondent

Montague Island: Lighthouses, whales and seals...Oh my!

Whales!" someone shouted, and everyone on the boat jumped out of their seats. We strained our eyes to catch even the slightest glimpse of the magnificent beasts.

Finally, off the left side of the boat I spotted two puffs from a pair of blowholes as the whales, as if in slow motion, emerged from the water. One child on the boat took on the role of tour guide and shouted "There!" every time the whales re-emerged and broke the surface of the water.

I was on my way to Montague Island, an escape from civilization just 9 km off the coast of Narooma, New South Wales, Australia. The boat route to the island intersected with the humpback whale migration route and it was rare not to see a whale or two in transit.

As the captain directed the boat toward the island, the rocks along the shore suddenly sprung to life with movement. Hundreds of Australian fur seals started bobbing up and down and then waddling their way over the edge and sliding into the sea below.

Their lack of grace on land was made up for by their fineness in the water. The boat was completely surrounded by leaping and twirling seals. If the water were warmer perhaps I would have jumped in with them.

When we land on the tiny island, home to NSW's largest colony of Little Penguins, we were

greeted by one of the alternating lighthouse keepers/tour guides/National Park officials named Steve Hutcheson.

Hutcheson revealed the Aboriginal history of the island and the significance that it played in their legends. Apparently in the 1800s, Montague Island was taken over by Europeans who built the lighthouse that stands prominently at the center of the island today. These

men, however, destroyed the habitat of the island, by introducing foreign plants and animals that decimated the penguin population, and by using the island as a rubbish bin.

"When National Parks took the island over in the late 1980s, the island was basically hanging on by a thread. The environment was virtually destroyed," said Hutcheson.

National Parks workers like Hutcheson have since rid the island of all introduced species and are working to replant the native vegetation. Today, eight years after the initiative began, you would never know that the island ever looked any different.

Hutcheson said, "The whole western side of the island, we know for a fact before European settlement, was fully forested, and I mean Australian bush, 20 meter gum trees."

The island is not covered in gum trees like it once was; those will take time to grow. But the virgin landscape of the island, a tremendous granite rock covered in rich green grass and emerging new plant life makes the island so inviting that I just wanted to ditch the tour and find a nice place to recline and watch the ocean crash against the rocks.

But Hutcheson warned us at the beginning of the tour that we weren't allowed to wander off for fear we would stumble upon sacred Aboriginal territory on the island.

I finished with a climb up the winding lighthouse stairs. Emerging at the top I was rewarded with a stunning 365-degree view of the island. I looked out over the water to see if I could spot any more whales.

No such luck, but I



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COURTESY OF CARTER BANKER
Steve Hutcheson, a National Park official on Montague Island gives tours of the island and explain its history.

HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, rants, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and, of course, sex.



COURTESY OF QUEENIE & THE DEW VIA FLICKR
Sally and Sam are two unconventionally loveable Anderson characters.

Moonrise Kingdom: A unique movie viewing

This week I'm reviewing a recent film that received rave reviews: "Moonrise Kingdom," directed by Wes Anderson, cowritten by Anderson and Roman Coppola. If you haven't watched the film yet, be aware of minor spoilers ahead.

Kevin Joyce
Resident Cinephile

"Moonrise Kingdom" is a charming and disarming story told in a classically quirky Anderson style. The characters are nuanced and have a droll flair to them that makes much of their dialogue hilarious in a dry sort of way.

Sam, one of the two main protagonists, presents a rather unconventional character. In any other movie, the dialogue would have seemed stilted and inappropriately mature for the character. However, Anderson (and Coppola) develop Sam in such a way that the stranger lines seem humorously and purposefully out of place (it also, along with its levity, has a touching seriousness and intimacy to it). Sam comes across as a loner and an outsider with some eccentric yet endearing tendencies. So these lines fit right in with his mannerisms.

Anderson doesn't just tackle the slightly odd, however. He also takes on the more serious characterizations with a deft hand. When I first heard that Suzy is thought of by her parents as "troubled," I for one didn't believe them, of course siding with one of the main protagonists. I thought the parents just couldn't understand her. She wasn't truly mentally or emotionally unstable. However, slowly Suzy is revealed to have some more disturbing tendencies. She writes to Sam about outbursts she has, she stabs Redford with her scissors, she threatens her father in a deeply menacing way and she seems rather unfazed and detached about the fact that she may never see her family again when escaping with the Khaki scouts. Eventually we grow to understand that perhaps the adults actually knew what they were talking about in this movie, rather than the children's magical and imaginative natures just being misunderstood, as is often the case in films. In this, we find a sad and poignant drop of realism in what is otherwise a curiously fantastical film.

However, Anderson and Coppola keep this aspect of her characterization from being too sobering, making sure Suzy has enough redeeming qualities to make her into an empathetic character. She saves a worm from being killed, showing the value she places on life, she almost can't accept when a dog she doesn't know is dead and she is obviously deeply committed to Sam. The two make a winning couple, with awkward but profoundly inti-

mate interactions that tug at the heartstrings.

The other characters served well as sympathetic sidepieces. I kept finding myself feeling sorry for the well-meaning Scout Master Ward, and laughing at the self-effacing Captain Sharp. The two play off each other nicely as empathetic characters who fit perfectly in the distinctly quaint setting of the island on which the movie takes place.

Overall, the movie is a well-paced slice of life that successfully portrays the plight of its two young lovers and the profound effect they have on the people around them. If you're a fan of Wes Anderson, or at the very least enjoyed one of his movies, I'd highly recommend giving this one a go, it would be worth your time.

A love letter to Baltimore and cities, but mostly Bmore

There is a lot going on this month. I could write about my Halloween, but I have nothing to say about the holiday that I did not already address last month. I could write about Hurricane Sandy, but I do not have the authority, and I would rather make people happy, and not sad. I could write about National Novel Writing Month (<http://www.nanowrimo.org/>), but then it would sound like me preaching about the importance of writing everyday. I could write about the election, but we already get enough of that everywhere we turn. I could talk about all of these things right now by saying that I won't talk about them.

What I really want to address is something that I find myself explaining to people on an almost daily basis. I am from New York City and I chose not to go to school close to home. I wanted to try something new, to be away from what I already know and love. I initially wanted to go to a smaller school, but I have completely changed my mind about that. When I tell people where I am from, they say, "Oh, it must have been a huge adjustment for you to be in a much smaller city." That is one of the most ridiculous assumptions to make about me. I know people are just making small talk, but they are putting me in a tough position. How am I supposed to answer this? You expect a certain answer from me. If I say "yes," and walk away, then I am a jerk. Luckily, I disagree wholeheartedly.

For one, anywhere I would have gone would

have been an adjustment for me. That is what I wanted. I wanted diversity. I wanted people who study different things than I do, and that is what I got. For another, Baltimore does not feel like a small city to me thus far. Maybe it is because I am just a sophomore, but I feel like whenever I leave campus, I am doing something that I have never done before. And the last thing, and this is most important: Baltimore is a city, regardless of its size.

Being in a city has shaped my college experience more than any other factor could. I have things to do near campus. I can walk to stores near school or take an easy ride to get to stores far away. I am not restricted to cars. I can easily get to the train station instead of having to wait for a bus that comes once a day to take me to the nearest station miles away (my mother had to do this at her school). I can decide to live in a house or an apartment. I can go do something "cultural" on a whim. I can explore a safe neighborhood I have never explored before or go to a concert or ballgame downtown. I have so many options.

Baltimore has become one of my favorite places. I love the art scene and have yet to fully explore Station North and Hampden. I love the identity of Baltimore. I also love that people from a myriad of places live here. I love the fact that this city actually keeps its old archi-

ecture. And when a character on "30 Rock" said that the Baltimore Philharmonic these days is "just a boom box and a guy in a crab costume" who "gets shot out of a cannon at Ravens games," I laughed and then felt defensive. What do you know about Baltimore, NYU grad who writes for "30 Rock" with Tina Fey?

While this is partially a love letter to Baltimore, this is also a love letter to cities. Cities mean people and peo-

ple bring community, ideas and intellect. We thrive on human interaction. We need to meet people who are different than us. We are here because we are at one of the greatest schools in the country, but we also happen to go to school in a city. It may seem small to some, but it is a place where culture thrives, where bands want to perform and where teams want to play. For the rest of this month, I will be ticking off things on my "Baltimore Bucket List," while simultaneously adding more. I do not want to leave here without experiencing everything this city has to offer.

Elizabeth Sherwood
My Favorite Things

Classy or not: How did you dress up?

Halloween 2012 has come and gone. Along with it, parades of girls sporting some sort of animal ears, or dressed as this or that uniformed official could be seen meandering the streets of Hopkins and Fell's Point. Of course, you also had your classic celebs, political figures, or iconic movie characters making an appearance (or several). The high incidences of multiple identical costumes that can generally be found during the Halloween season are a testament to the fact that thinking up and carrying out a distinct and brilliant original costume, while admirable and desirable, very often proves

pointless and near impossible. However, just because you can't be unique in your costume choice doesn't mean that whatever you put together can't be hilarious or well done. After all, the abundance of Mitt Romneys did not detract from those particularly spot-on Romney renditions that made sure to have their life-sized cardboard binder full of woman (singular — it turns out binders can't actually hold that many women, Mitt). It's not so much how you dress up, but rather how you arrive. Costumes need not be unprecedented or unparalleled in uniqueness, but whatever else they are, they should be executed well.

Let's be real. Especially with regards to costumes in college, slutty is most definitely acceptable and even encouraged for the ladies. I'll admit that I, for one, subscribe to this principle. Halloween can and does serve as a valid excuse for many to get a little risqué and not be looked down upon or be given the stink eye by their peers. That does not excuse, however, flagrant nudity or dressing slutty just for the sake of dressing slutty, all things that, ironically, a one Ms. Nicki Minaj would describe as downright "ratchet-ness." There has to

Sally Minn
Fashionista

The GRE: Is it really that useful?

In 2011, over 800,000 people worldwide took the Graduate Records Examination, better known as the GRE, as part of an effort to gain admission to graduate education programs. This year, I will be among those taking the test.

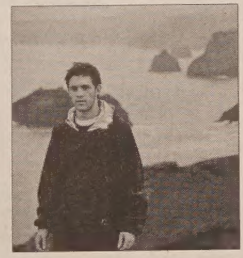
The exam proposes to test critical and analytical skills in writing, reading comprehension and low-level mathematics not specific to any field of study. It requires test takers to write short essays, show wide knowledge of vocabulary and exhibit mastery of math concepts up to basic algebra and data analysis. It takes approximately four hours to complete and is computer based.

The organization behind the GRE, the Educational Testing Service (ETS), is a 65-year old non-profit that creates and administers a range of educational tests, including the PSAT, AP series and K-12 statewide assessments.

In my preparation for the exam, I have come to question the role it plays in graduate admissions and the role the ETS plays in the educational landscape. While ostensibly testing knowledge required for success in higher education, I find that the GRE actually tests a student's ability to memorize and regurgitate information that he or she is unlikely to ever use again. And the ETS, which is legally a non-profit, seems to function more like a massively profitable private company, neglecting its

responsibility to the public it purports to serve.

First, I'll address the test. It is broken up into three sections: analytical writing, verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning, designed to test a taker's ability to "articulate complex ideas clearly," "understand multiple levels of meaning," and "interpret and analyze quantitative information," respectively. At first glance, these seem like reasonable skills to test. But when you examine the actual content, it becomes apparent that this is not the case. Take the verbal reasoning section: it contains many questions that require knowledge of advanced vocabulary — so advanced, in fact, that many of the words are essentially never used in common discourse. Some



Nicholas DePaul
Voice from the Underground

This column engages political, cultural and philosophical issues through provocative and occasionally radical argument.

examples are: deleterious, analgesia and pulchritude. When the first few pages of a Google search only turn up definitions of the word or examples of its use in scientific literature, one can safely assume that it is not necessary for a successful life and career. The quantitative reasoning section focuses on information that most students likely learned during sophomore year of high school, and promptly forgot, as they understood (intuitively, perhaps) that they really didn't need to know how to graph a function or memorize the quadratic equation. Does a computer science graduate student

really need to know what "stentorian" means? How often will an English Literature student need to calculate the area of a cylinder?

I had to pay \$170 to register for the exam (the price differs by region). The ETS must use that money to ensure quality control and testing fairness, right? One can imagine my dismay, then, when I discovered that the organization's president, Kurt Landgraf, was paid over \$700,000 in 2009 (the most recent tax filing is publicly available) and that even its board members, in a practice the IRS discourages, received compensation of over \$50,000. Remember, this is an organization that receives taxpayer money to carry out K-12 testing in many states, including California, where their contract was valued at near \$170 million.

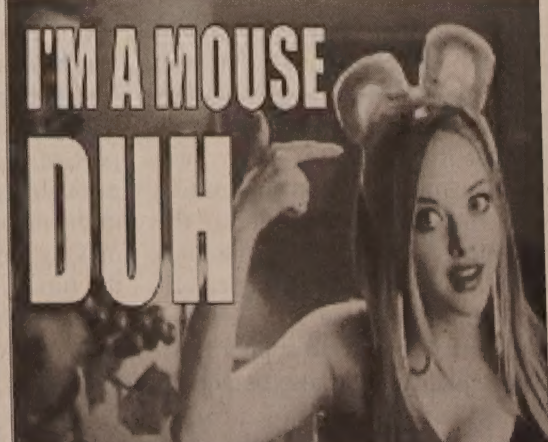
Such expenditure is appalling. Excess revenue should go toward reducing fees for test takers or providing more free test prep materials. The ETS functions as a monopoly in its field, but, because it is listed as a non-profit, is not subject to anti-trust laws. And the number of programs that require the GRE is growing!

Consumers should express their outrage over the GRE's purported usefulness and the abusive practices of the ETS. Students around the world, many of whom exhibit intelligences that do not appear on such a test, are being held down by a greedy multinational organization, and institutions of higher education are suffering for it. We need creative thinkers and innovative leaders who can navigate the rapidly changing landscapes of a globalizing world, individuals who are driven, passionate, considering and alert.

Whether they can define "imprecation" doesn't matter.

be some classiness to it and, as mentioned before, brilliant execution. Therefore, if you're going to dress up as something, then dress up as something. Don't just throw on some bunny ears, strip down to your skimpiest and tightest and then try to pass that off as a costume. Go for the made-on whiskers and nose, the flouncy tail and maybe that form-fitting velvet skirt in the tradition of the Velveteen Rabbit. Ideally, the most successful costumes will blend slutty, perhaps better put as "sexy", and "creative" seamlessly. One girl dressed as a bottle of Sriracha sauce, and she met this balance quite well — several simple elements came together to form her makeshift costume. She drew the Sriracha logo by hand onto a body hugging bright red American Apparel U-back dress and wore a green cap for the spout of the bottle. Simple, clever, well put together and still hot (pun intended).

For those women that feel they can't fashion a costume that emulates both the creative and the sexy, then choose the one you can actualize with the greatest flair. Boxes may not ooze sex appeal, but they certainly lend themselves to clever creations. A box that is fiddled with properly can be a quirky salute to an animated Pixar favorite in the form of the house from "Up." A box can also be flattened, its flaps glued with Solo cups and ping pong balls. It can then be strapped on to serve as the spare beer pong table in the event that the tables at your local party venue (with its particularly "brotherly" vibe) get overcrowded and backed up, as they often do. Whatever your costume choice may be, make it good and make it memorable. The greatest costumes came from those who committed to an idea and then were unapologetic about getting hallo-weird. If you were disappointed with how yours turned out this year, don't fret — there's always next year...



COURTESY OF ORIGAMI OWL, VANESSA AGUAYO VIA FACEBOOK
In movie classic *Mean Girls*, Karen dresses up as a mouse, duh.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Editorial

Hotel at Olmstead isn't practical

On Tuesday, Alan Fish, the Vice President of Real Estate and Campus Services, introduced some of his suggestions for development at Homewood to the Student Government Association (SGA). One of the most ambitious projects Fish spoke about and the first one he would like to implement is the construction of a hotel on the vacant Olmstead lot on 33rd St. between St. Paul and N. Charles St. Fish told the SGA that the hotel would increase the quality of student life by bringing “really great restaurants” to Charles Village and would provide students with another place to “hang out.”

This page strongly believes that there are far better ways to use this land.

First, a hotel is not what Charles Village is missing right now. Charles Village is still far from being considered a thriving “college town,” and the development of the Olmstead lot could go a long way in bringing a more lively social scene to the community.

For one, Charles Village has no large grocery store at which students can shop. The nearest supermarket is blocks away, which means that students often have to settle with paying exorbitant prices at the Charles Street Market or accept the limited,

and also expensive, options at Ed-dies. The construction of a large supermarket would most likely be a top priority for students.

Also, there has been a growing demand for a student union over the past few years. For the administration to build a hotel instead of a student union – an addition to Homewood which would indubitably increase the quality of student life – is disconcerting.

A hotel has nothing to do with students and their quality of life and for Fish to make such a connection is baffling. A hotel serves the purpose of housing people who don't live in Baltimore. Students live in Baltimore, so they won't be staying at the hotel. The fact that the hotel might have a restaurant at which the students can “hang out” is equally baffling. If the administration thinks students need more restaurants – which they do – then they should build more restaurants, not a hotel with a restaurant in it.

While talking to the SGA about his plans is a good first step, Fish should continue this dialogue with a larger portion of the student body. There are most likely many students who have better ideas for the Olmstead lot than building a hotel that will not significantly better the social life of students on campus.

Daniels makes a necessary first step

Last week President Ronald J. Daniels wrote an op-ed piece in *The Baltimore Sun* in support of marriage equality in Maryland. Daniels briefly mentioned that he saw the issue as “a matter of justice and core civil rights,” but the remainder of his piece gave a less common interpretation as to why marriage equality is important: it is beneficial for business, especially for an organization like Hopkins. Proposition 6, which reaffirmed the right to marriage among all citizens in Maryland, passed on Tuesday night.

The fact that the University has publicly made a statement about a political issue is generally praiseworthy. It is positive to see the president of the University voicing his stance on an issue that affects the entire state, especially considering the important role that Hopkins plays as the largest private employer in Maryland. Since the University holds so much sway in the community, Baltimore City and the state of Maryland, this principled stance on marriage equality is likely to influence others to join the cause.

Daniels' decision to support marriage equality could also potentially

fuel some political activism on campus, which Hopkins could use more of. His action might inspire some students to initiate a conversation regarding issues important to the nation, state or University.

Daniels also gave a coherent breakdown on how Hopkins's ability to successfully attract certain professionals to Maryland can depend heavily on the status of marriage equality in the state. He specifically pointed out that the benefits associated with securing legal-marital status could help Hopkins more effectively compete with top-tier universities in other states in attempts to attract professors. Daniels' point has merit; many top-tier professionals might be affected by Tuesday's response to Question 6. In a way, Daniels' unique characterization of a very heated national issue has introduced another dimension in the marriage equality discussion.

His decision to come out in support of marriage equality is commendable. And hopefully the administration will not shy away from making similar pronouncements in the future, especially since if it has the potential to activate our student body politically and inspire action in the state of Maryland.

Britni Crocker



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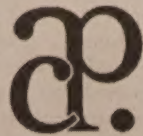
NEWS-LETTER

The Gatehouse
(on the corner of N. Charles
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OPINIONS

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Sonia Tsuruoka

Four more years: Where we are and where we're going

Three weeks' worth of misguided campaign strategies and unbefitting soundbites in the lead-up to this Tuesday's election forecasted Romney's downfall even before the race was called. In fact, the phrase "bleak prospects" would have seemed a gross understatement; by the morning of the election, the New York Times' number-crunching guru Nate Silver had boldly pegged Obama's chances of re-election at over 90 percent, and by 11:30 PM – before Florida and Ohio's tallies had been finalized – none other than Fox News had declared a landslide victory for Barack Obama.

An unsurprising outcome, according to most prescient strategists and pollsters. But even if this year's election was far from "too close to call," Tuesday's results undoubtedly afforded Americans a measure of political clarity – a kind of checkpoint where past and present-day electoral conditions could be thoroughly contrasted and evaluated, and the changing means of political self-identification for both parties could be analyzed and discussed. In other words, four years after the completion of Obama's first presidential term, what has and hasn't changed for Republicans and Democrats?

For Democrats, Election 2012 was a mixed bag. Weary liberals – sapped of last election's fresh-faced, inspirational fervor – breathed only a collective sigh of relief after Tuesday's results rolled in. Sure, voters who passionately stormed the polls in 2008 returned in dutiful defense of President Obama in 2012, but many observe a stark change in

the tone of national and party discourse; without the sense of an aggressive, democratic mandate, much momentum seems lost in the face of bitter partisan fracture. Most agree that the enthusiasm surrounding Obama's early years – once a force to be

accompanied with a discouraging sense of déjà vu – another reminder of the party's enduring existential crisis, particularly when it comes to their fragmenting base of constituents. Behind the roar of victory on the part of Democrats, embarrassed and

embittered Republicans face many pivotal questions about the future of the party and the long-standing ideological fissures that felled its fortunes again this November. They're beginning to take a forced but firm look at themselves in the mirror – a self-reflexive gesture that might engender a new and necessary willingness among party guardians to pursue the complex process of Republican modernization.

Which isn't to say that Republicans should entirely abandon conservative orthodoxy, only that it might be wise for them to re-examine their priorities and consequently

reclaim their relevance in the national political arena. Already, there are promising indications that the crux of the party is beginning to reject the moral militancy that has, for too long, overshadowed more substantive subjects of political discussion – fiscal conservatism, for instance, rather than issues like abortion and birth control. Young Republicans in particular are begin-

ning to recognize the role ideological pandering has played in marginalizing mainstream moderates and despoiling the big-tent principles that once were, and should continue to be, the cornerstone of American Republicanism.

The Grand Old Party, it seems, has been offered what is known in politics as a tabula rasa – a clean slate – that lays the foundation for the emergence of a more modernized bloc of constituents. And while it is unlikely that religious radicalism will ever be fully purged from the political scene, Republican leaders can, at the very least, aim to minimize more extreme social agendas in the non-partisan context of global economic crisis.

If not, the party's self-imposed ideological rigidity will compromise their ability to stay afloat in present-day electoral conditions; they will have to reconcile the divide between the "Chablis" and "Budweiser" Republicans, or else make a clean break from one segment or the other. Moreover, they will have to consider reviving – and actualizing – the notion of big-tent Republicanism to expand their shrinking base of constituents, and accommodate a growing pool of swing-voters and self-identified independents. Considering these circumstances, failure to consolidate is not an option for Republicans – that is, if they want to avoid being thrown out with the bathwater.

In the end, two questions persist: Is the Republican Party ready to modernize? Or will it, once again, resume the same tooth-and-nail infighting that has characterized its politics for much of its modern-day existence?

Sonia Tsuruoka is a junior International Studies and Writing Seminars double major from Montclair, N.J. She is the political opinions columnist for The News-Letter.

Voters missed

opportunity for change

By BO TAO

On Tuesday, the country missed the opportunity to vote for real change – actual, real and tangible transformations to our country. Change will come when we stop passing and renewing laws such as the Patriot Act and the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which egregiously violate the very basic principles this country was founded upon. It will come when we stop calling the dead children from the drone strikes in Pakistan "collateral damage" and actually put a face to these people who are no different from the rest of us.

Maybe if we chose a president who actually wanted to end the War on Drugs and the prison industrial complex, America will not have the highest incarceration rates in the world. Perhaps if a candidate actually took a stand for marriage equality, instead of changing his position one year before the elections, the new fight for civil rights would have been won already. Instead of bailing out corporations, maybe the American people need to be bailed out for being tricked into fraudulent contracts and those who caused the recession arrested and tried in a court of law.

America is at a crossroads and it was up to the public to decide whether we continue on the two-party road to serfdom. Unfortunately, it seems that's the path we're headed down.

Bo Tao is a senior Public Health major from Baltimore, Md. He is a staff writer for The News-Letter.

Nikko Price

President Obama's message of optimism

Two days have passed since President Obama was reelected as the President of the United States. Over these past 48 hours, I've been attempting to put into words what exactly his victory means to me.

A few days before the election, I wrote in the News-Letter's political magazine about why I worked for President Obama and why I voted for him. I wrote about a man named Matt Lynch who came from my hometown, who led my high school swim team and joined the Marine Corps. I wrote about how his death instilled in me the idea that politics matters and that the decisions our leaders make affect us all.

But there was a subtext to that story that I myself hadn't fully realized until the early hours of Wednesday morning, when President Obama took the stage at the McCormick Place convention center in Chicago to deliver his victory speech.

President Obama reminded me that the story I told of Matt wasn't only about sacrifice and patriotism, of mourning and loss. I wrote in that story how the pain felt by a family after receiving the dreaded knock at the door by the men in uniform is a pain felt by the entire community. When a town loses its hero, a wound is left in all which never truly heals.

The story I told of Matt, I've come to realize, was really a story about us – about our country and what it means to be an American. It was a story about

hope and optimism, a firm reassurance at a time when the future seems so bleak and so uncertain. When one of us hurts, we all hurt. When one of us mourns, we all join hands and mourn together. Even though Matt and thousands like him will never come back, we're going to be alright.

President Obama's victory reminded me that we're all in this together. There will be bumps ahead and roadblocks to the future we all envision, but we'll be taking the same trip together. All of us, as Americans.

Matt's gone. A fiscal cliff lies ahead. Economic recession looms in Europe. But we're all still here and we can find some solace in the fact that our petty differences are never strong enough to truly divide us. We'll have disagreements, sure. We'll quibble about tax hikes and Medicare cuts, we'll debate the merits of stimulus and austerity, but at the end of the day we're all Americans. Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative, Matt's loss hurts us all and we're all anxious about what the future will bring. But we all move forward together. To me, that's the best part of President Obama's victory. The future isn't so dark as long as we remember that our unity will always light our way forward.

Nikko Price is a sophomore Political Science major from New York, N.Y. He is the Opinions editor for The News-Letter.

Romney win would have been disastrous

By JAMES CAMERON

Now that I can safely say that Mitt Romney will not be elected our next president, I feel it's necessary to reflect on what his presidency would have meant for the all-important and salient issue of disaster relief.

At a Republican presidential primary debate last year, John King of CNN asked Romney how he viewed the role of the federal government in disaster relief. Romney promptly responded that he would cut funding to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the primary organization the federal government uses to deal with disasters.

This position reflected a continuation of the policy started under President Bush, in which FEMA was absorbed by the Department of Homeland Security, a decision which drastically reduced the effectiveness of FEMA, as evidenced during Hurricane Katrina. The destruction wreaked by Katrina, combined with the disastrous response of FEMA, led to major changes within the organization.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, the Romney campaign sought to balance Romney's statements of 2011 by express-

ing the clear need for federal aid in disaster relief. The campaign eventually released a statement in which Romney recognized the need for FEMA while still reiterating his previous statement of returning many of FEMA's responsibilities to the states. This change of position reflects how out of touch some of Romney's pledges were.

The reality is quite different. In the wake of a disaster the governor of the affected state must first declare a state of emergency and then formally request that FEMA join in the disaster response. FEMA then

puts into action a plan that focuses on providing aid on a local scale, concentrating on first responders and bolstering the efforts of civil authorities.

All of these measures show close cooperation between the state and federal government, not a trampling of states rights as claimed by the Romney campaign. FEMA also provides local funding for the rebuilding process through the Small Business Administration (SBA), another government position that was elevated to the cabinet level under President Obama. The SBA pro-

vides loans to small business and entrepreneurs to strengthen the national economy. Strengthening small business is a keystone of the Romney campaign, but with the proposed dismantling of FEMA, the SBA would no longer be able to provide funding for recovery efforts.

Romney's comments last year were clearly designed to gain support from the Republican base, the same base that gave him his party's nomination. After Romney joined the general election campaign, he moved to a more moderate position, renouncing his earlier statement calling for the destruction of FEMA. Despite that change, Romney still clung to the idea of returning the powers of FEMA to the states.

The reality, however, is that FEMA exists to help states deal with disasters that would otherwise overwhelm them. FEMA is then an example of cooperation between federal and state government, it is an example of how sometimes we encounter problems that require a national response. Romney thought that a disaster like Hurricane Sandy didn't require a national response, that perhaps the states would manage it better on their own. Now that Romney won't be our president, we can all rest assured that the national government will be there for us in times of crisis.

James Cameron is a freshman International Studies major from Boston, Mass.



COURTESY OF JANSON TRIEU

DON'T BE A CRASH TEXT DUMMY



TEXTING WHILE CROSSING THE STREET IS DUMB.



Pedtextrians. You know the type: head down, thumbs glued to a touch screen, oblivious to the world around them. Text-happy pedestrians are 60 percent more likely to veer off course. They're also more likely to stroll into traffic, leading to injury and possibly death. The lesson? Don't be a crash text dummy. Curb your phone and keep your eyes on the road.

It might save your life.

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BE A  ROAD SCHOLAR

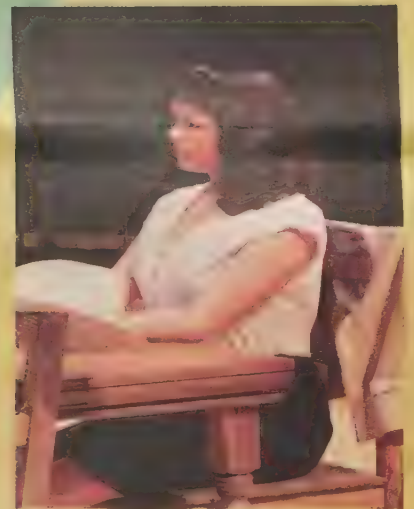
THE B SECTION

Your Weekend • Arts & Entertainment • Cartoons, Etc. • Science & Technology • Sports

NOVEMBER 8, 2012



BARNSTORMERS PRESENT: 12 ANGRY JURORS



By Jasmin Gonzalez

****Not just chili peppers**

Chili Cookoff!
Your Weekend, B2



Melanie Hsu/Cartoons Editor

YOUR WEEKEND Nov 8-12

People-watching at Starbucks

This weekend as much as I want to make up some grandiose lie, was boring and rather lackluster. I spent the whole weekend reading and finishing up an essay — typical Hopkins student, eh?

However, the one thing that I can say that made my boring weekend rather fun was going to Starbucks at the crack of dawn and people watching.

I went with my roommate at half-past six in the morning to sit in a stool that was quite uncomfortable and write about persuasion techniques in Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar." But that's a topic for another day.

We were sitting in Starbucks with our awesome Christmas cups — yes, Starbucks has brought out the Christmas cups! Anyway, as we were sitting with our Christmas cups, I wrote my glorious essay while my roommate stud-

ied for a huge test she had the following day.

Between studying and writing, we were people watching and that is one of the best things to do while you're at Starbucks — in fact, it's practically the only thing to do.

I have a few favorites that I witnessed between unavoidable bouts of boredom and laziness.

While sipping my Peppermint Mocha and munching on my bagel, I just sat and watched people come and

go.

Some of the best customers were children with their parents. There was one group where a dad with a British accent (OMG) was asking what his kids wanted. It was the cutest thing in the world!

My second experience involving little kids at Starbucks in the wee hours of the morn, was when my roommate almost answered a dad asking a kid

not my roommate — if he wanted milk or not.

Let's just say she was standing precariously on the edge of awkwardness.

The last person that caught my attention (it was a rather slow Sunday), was a man, an older gent in his mid-forties who had obviously just come from a run. As a runner myself, I don't judge when someone either 1) looks ridiculous while actually running or 2) is wearing something absolutely ridiculous while running — by that I mean bright orange spandex (I still get shivers at the thought).

This man, bless him, was wearing earmuffs and tight — very tight — running leggings that left nothing to the imagination. It was a little scarring.

There's not much more to say about the past weekend but there will hopefully be something more exciting next weekend, finger crossed!

However, in the meantime, go to Starbucks like me and do some people watching.

Jesica Dawson Cheeky Weekend



COURTESY OF WWW.STARBUCKS.COM

Starbucks coffee and holiday themed cups are a fun way to brighten up a weekend spent studying.



COURTESY OF WWW.DIGITALMEDIA.JHU.EDU

Performance artist Rohina Malik will be at Hopkins next week to broach topics related to diversity and Islamic culture.

Unveiled addresses issues of racism

By ALEXA KWIATKOSKI
Your Weekend Editor

This Monday and Tuesday, artist Rohina Malik is coming to Hopkins. She will perform her one-woman show "Unveiled" and visit two classes.

This show addresses issues of racism and hate crimes. But most of all, it gives voice to the unique female Muslim perspective.

On Malik's website, the premise of the play is described as such: "Five Muslim women in a post-9/11 world serve tea and uncover what lies beneath the veil."

Rohina Malik is a playwright, actress and performance artist of South-Asian heritage. She was born and raised in London, England. Currently, she is based in Chicago.

In addition to "Unveiled," she is also the author of "The Mecca Tales and Yasmina's Necklace."

Rohina is a resident

playwright at Chicago Dramatists. She is an artistic associate at the 16th Street Theater and she was one of the four original writers of The Goodman Theater's "Playwrights Unit."

"Unveiled" had its world premiere in 2009 and has become a critical success. Its entire run and subsequent extension were sold out.

Since then, Malik has been invited to perform at various other theaters, as well as at universities, churches, mosques and synagogues.

In December 2011, Malik performed at the Baltimore Theatre Project. Now she is back in Charm City to share her story with the Hopkins community.

The JHU Internal Press Release describes Malik's work as a "humorous yet compelling way for students to learn about racism, hate crimes, love, Islam, culture, language

and life."

This event is co-sponsored by The Digital Media Center, Homewood Arts Programs, Campus Ministries, Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Program for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

It is presented as a way to encourage different perspectives and explore diversity within Islamic culture.

"Unveiled" will be performed at 7 p.m. on the night of Nov. 12 in Levering's Arellano Theatre. Afterward, there will be an audience discussion. The performance is free and open to the general public.

On Nov. 13th, Malik will be a guest in courses offered by the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies department.

Her time at Hopkins is sure to be an entertaining and educational experience for everyone involved.

Calendar of JHU Events

Thursday Nov. 8

Chili Cook-Off
11:30 a.m.
Glass Pavilion,
Levering

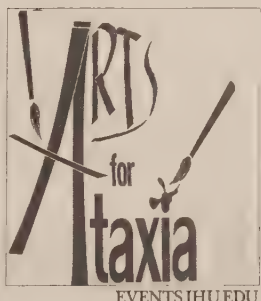
Johns Hopkins Annual Chili Cook-Off is this Friday afternoon. You can enter your homemade chili or baked goods to win prizes! Or for \$5 you can eat lunch and vote for your favorite chili. All proceeds go to United Way of Central Maryland and the Johns Hopkins Neighborhood Fund.

Saturday Nov. 10

Arts for Ataxia Benefit Picnic
11 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Charles Commons,
Ballroom A

Free food, free t-

shirts and music. All at the Arts for Ataxia Picnic! There will be speakers, an art contest and a raffle. You can even enter the contest to win \$50.



EVENTS.JHU.EDU

The Tempest
11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Peabody Institute
Cafeteria

Come see an original opera based on Shakespeare's legendary play.

CultureShow 2012
6 p.m.
Shriver Hall

Where in the World is CultureShow? Join Hopkins groups of all backgrounds to celebrate culture through performing arts. There will also be a special guest!

Sunday Nov. 11

FSI Mystery
Bus Trip
7 - 9 p.m.
Wolman Hall

There is another FSI Mystery Bus trip this Sunday night! Meet new people, hang out with faculty and get off of campus for a few hours. Look out for a hint about where this trip will be going. Buses meet on the corner of 34th and St. Paul.

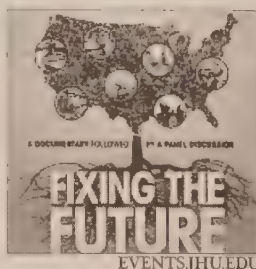
Monday Nov. 12

Unveiled
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Levering,
Arellano Theatre

Artist Rohina Malik is coming to Homewood to perform her one-woman play, "Unveiled." This show deals with racism, hate crimes and Islamic culture in a post-9/11 world. It challenges assumptions by examining the experiences of five Muslim women.

Calendar of B'more Events

Thursday Nov. 8



EVENTS.JHU.EDU

Fixing the Future
7 p.m.
Creative Alliance
at the Patterson

Creative Alliance is screening David Brancaccio's documentary film, "Fixing the Future." It deals with the radical idea of reinventing the economy. Baltimore businesses and our local money, the BNote, are highlighted in the film as examples of ways to create jobs and stimulate the economy. Zeke's coffee and other

B'more businesses including the Baltimore Time Bank, Red Emma's, Baltimore Green Works and the Baltimore Green Currency Association will be there.

MANIK
9 p.m.
Red Maple

This Thursday night Visionaire presents MANIK at Red Maple restaurant and lounge in the Mt. Vernon area. MANIK is a New York City native who is also a DJ, producer and pioneer in dance music. His album, "Armies of the Night," is on Ovum and in stores now. MANIK's first show in Baltimore is also featuring Lomez, Chris Nitti and Danny Techlove.



FACEBOOK.COM/MANIK

Saturday Nov. 10

The Nields Benefit
Concerts
3:30 & 7:30 p.m.
Cultural Arts Center,
Montgomery
College, D.C.

To kick off Washington Revels' 30th Annual Christmas Revels, sisters Nerissa and Katryna Nields will play two benefit concerts. This folk duo will do an earlier show for children and then an evening performance for the adults.

Conversation with
John Travolta and
John Waters
7 p.m.
Brown Center,
MICA

Baltimore's own John Waters is coming to MICA for a Maryland Film Festival benefit. With him will be legendary actor John Travolta, who portrayed Edna Turnblad in the Baltimore-set musical, Hairspray.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

SASH holds its Fall Show, Sashpocalypse

By **ELSHEBA ABRAHAM**
Staff Writer

It may be still quite a long ways to Dec. 21, but the students of South Asian Students at Hopkins (SASH) were already thinking about the end of world.

For those who managed to completely avoid the Breezeway last week, SASH held its annual Fall Show last Friday night, entitled "Sashpocalypse."

The entire event was based on the premise that the world was ending, and the audience was taken on a journey with emcees Neel Sangal, Prith Roychowdhary and Nirali Chauhan as they explored Pakistan, Bangladesh, India and Nepal while they still had the chance.

The concept gave the audience the opportunity to really brush up on its general knowledge of the culturally rich South Asia, as it "travelled" alongside the emcees throughout different countries and regions (including the Punjab and Gujarat) to learn about the cultural practices distinctive of each.

Throughout the event, the audience was treated to a variety of cultural performances, including several different styles of dance, a cappella singing and even poetry recitals!

There were 13 acts in total, but classical Indian dance group Shakti was definitely one of the high-

lights of the night.

The ladies performed the bharatanatyam dance. The choreography depicts the story of how Lord Krishna conquered the demon snake king Kaliya. The dance culminates with the traditional "Kaliya Narthana" in which Krishna dances on top of the snake's hood. This particular bharatanatyam dance was choreographed by Sindhoora Murthy and Suchi Akmanchi.

The entire audience was enthralled by their intricate dance moves, exquisite facial expressions and impressive ability to maintain a high level of energy throughout the whole routine.

Masti, Hopkins's only Bollywood/fusion dance team, also shone on the stage.

Beat-laden Bollywood music (songs from favorites Ready and Desi Boyz) blended surprisingly well with Western pop — especially when Justin Bieber was thrown into the mix.

It was Hareepa that brought the house down with their bhangra moves. The group got the crowd roaring in support for them from the moment they stepped out onto the stage, costumed in their distinctive bright blue turbans. Their energetic choreography amazed everyone in the audience.

The event wasn't all about dancing though the night, however: Kranti did a great

SEE SASH, PAGE B4

Barnstormers' *Twelve Angry Jurors* is a hit

Themes of production pertinent in the face of this week's election, junior Jen Diamond shines

By **DUYEN TAT & DEVIN ALESSIO**
Staff Writers

The Barnstormers took a risk when they decided to stage *Twelve Angry Jurors* as their fall production.

It is an insightful work of theater, not meant for casual consumption. There are many challenges that come along with the nature of the play. Because the plot centers around jurors deliberating the verdict of a homicide, the actors must rise to the challenge of creating dimensional characters — and The Barnstormers succeeded in doing so.

The play begins when the recorded voice of a judge (irector David Gram) announces that a 17-year-old boy is on trial for supposedly killing his father and that the fate of his life rests upon the decision of 12 jurors.

Everyone is led to believe that it's an open and shut case — the boy's a troubled, violent child; a woman living across the street saw the boy in the act across the train tracks; and an old man living in their apartment heard a body fall, rushed to his front door and saw the boy run down the stairs — or so they say.

Every juror enters the decision room with distinctive personalities and backstories.

None of them want to be there and none of them like each other.

One man (senior Jeremy Dolinko) has been neglected by his own teenage son, and is thus prejudiced against wayward sons. Another (junior Brandon Epstein) came from the slums and has experience with violent crimes. Yet another juror (freshman Utkarsh Rajawat) is an Indian immigrant, and brings the perspective of an outsider as well as its associated stigmas to the trial.

Their assessment of the



JASMIN GONZALEZ/ PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Each actor in the cast of *Twelve Angry Jurors* creates a dynamic character, though some get lost in the shuffle.

situation is dramatically impacted by these experiences. Even though they try to be nonbiased, their past comes out in one way or another, leading the audience to question if jurors are truly unbiased in real life.

Each actor portrays their character very well, embodying the social class that they come from.

One woman, Juror 8 (junior Jen Diamond), is the sole dissident.

She has an inkling of a reasonable doubt, and the courage to stand up for her opinion. Even when others are screaming at her, and in one instance, even threatening physical violence, she never backs down. She manages to gradually bring the others to her side with her logical explanations of the holes in the witnesses'

testimonies.

Intensity is inherent to the role itself, and Diamond isn't afraid to play with fire. Her consideration for the fate of the person on trial is genuine and real.

"Intensity is inherent to the role itself, and Diamond isn't afraid to play with fire."

Yet with 12 actors constantly on stage, it is difficult for each of them to stand out and establish their own niche within the context of the play. It

was difficult for the audience to remember the characters with more subdued personalities or fewer lines.

The actors performed on a minimal set consisting of a long rectangular table illuminated by a few swinging lights. Four sets of risers accommodated the audience on all four sides of the stage, estab-

lishing the grave atmosphere necessary for a room for jurors to deliberate in.

An unfortunate by-product of this setup, however, was that at any given moment an actor would have his back to the audience. Intense emotional displays were lost to the one-fourth of the audience that was caught on the unlucky side.

"Twelve Angry Jurors" is a pertinent show to produce right before the presidential elections, since it emphasizes the power and importance of democracy. The boy on trial had the right to a fair trial, which he received despite the misgivings of many of the jurors, reminding the audience of how important it is to make independent decisions. Though it may be difficult to be the voice of dissent, as Juror 8 discovered, a difference of opinions is healthy, even essential, as evidenced by the verdict of the jury.



COURTESY OF NIRALI CHAUHAN

Hareepa commanded the crowd's attention with their bhangra moves.

Poet Laureate Mark Strand reads in Shriver Hall

By **DEVIN ALESSIO**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Writing Seminars warmly welcomed Mark Strand to Shriver Hall last night for a reading of his latest collection, "Almost Invisible."

Strand is one of the foremost living poets in the United States.

He has won almost every major honor awarded to poets in the United States, including the Bollingen Prize, three grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and a Rockefeller Foundation Award, as well as fellowships from The Academy of American Poets and the MacArthur Foundation.

He served as the Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 1990 to 1991.

He currently teaches Comparative Literature and English at Columbia University, and has previously been on the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago and taught in the Writing Seminars department at Hopkins.

Strand splits his time between living in New York City and Madrid.

Professor Mary Jo Salter introduced Strand as a poet whose work unifies forms of poetry and fiction. She commended "Almost Invisible" for exploring "the border between self and not self, nothing and not nothing, writing and

not writing, death and life and being and not being," and noted that all 20 of the graduate students in the Writing Seminars program

ems." Strand made several statements similar in nature to this one over the course of the night. Strand's work is written

sider myself an entertainer. Maybe only in the most melancholy sense..."

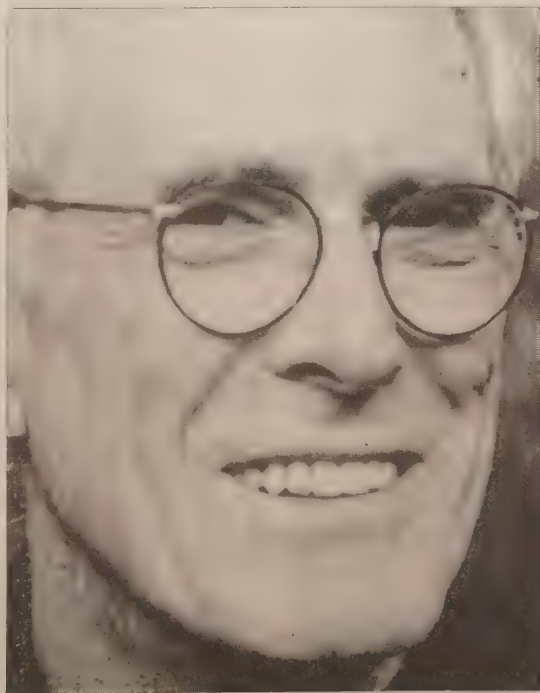
His self-deprecation is even palpable in his work, such as in "Poem of the Spanish Poet," in which he writes, "In a hotel room somewhere in Iowa an American poet, tired of his poems, tired of being an American poet, leans back in his chair and imagines he is a Spanish poet, and old Spanish poet..." In poems like this, Strand makes clear that he views his lifestyle in Madrid as an escape from his tired American one.

His poems tend to take on dark tones in a narrative structure, with titles ranging from the wistful "The Old Age of Nostalgia" to the witty "Love, Silhouetted by a Lavalight" and the whimsical "When I Turned One Hundred."

A defining characteristic in Strand's work (and personality) is his distinctive sense of humor.

As if an elderly man writing and reading a poem entitled, "Dreamed Testicles, Vanished Vaginas" isn't enough to make you cringe, imagine being in the audience when he read the line, "I've heard that all vaginas up there, even the most open, honest and energetic, are shut down, and that all testicles, even the most forthright and gifted, swing dreamily among the clouds like

SEE POET, PAGE B4



COURTESY OF POETRYFOUNDATION.ORG

Mark Strand is one of the most critically acclaimed living poets.

are studying his collection this semester.

Strand himself recognized the fact that his work unifies prose and poetry when he first stepped up the podium and explained, "My book is short. I can read from the beginning to end, skipping a few poems...I shouldn't have said po-

in a colloquial style in paragraph form, further blurring the line between the forms.

Though Strand is 78 years old, he continued to make self-deprecating jokes throughout his reading, pausing to comment, "I'm sorry I have nothing to say between poems. I don't con-

From Broadway to B'More: Next to Normal

By **ALEXA KWIATKOSKI**
Your Weekend Editor

Without any context, the opening scene of "Next to Normal" might make you laugh.

Seeing a suburban mom crouched down on the floor as she lines up bread for an infinite number of sandwiches certainly elicited a chuckle from a few audience members at the Vagabond Players theatre.

However, there is tragedy behind the play's levity. And as this pain manifests itself, the humor develops a bitter aftertaste.

In this way, "Next to Normal" is very much a modern musical.

It follows in the tradition of "Rent" and "Spring Awakening," mixing an utterly depressing storyline with humor, rock, anger and exuberance. The result is a heart-wrenchingly beautiful concoction.

As this play deals specifically with a bipolar character, its spectacular highs and lows are perhaps to be expected. But that doesn't make it any easier on your emotions.

"Next to Normal" tells the story of one woman's battle with mental illness.

Diana (Shannon Wollman) is a wife and mother who can barely hold on to the reality of her suburban

life. The play focuses on Diana's attempts to stabilize her bipolar disorder and overcome delusions caused by traumatic loss.

Her family struggles to support her while maintaining a semblance of normalcy in the face of her overwhelming condition.

"Next to Normal" takes on the complex triumphs and shortcomings of modern psychiatry.

In a song called "The Break," Diana sums up the trial and error involved in treating the human brain: "They tried a millions meds and / They strapped me to their beds and / They shrugged and told me that's the way it goes / And finally you hit it / I asked you just what did it / You shrugged and said that no one really knows."

The musical also deals with drug use and abuse. In the electric number, "Wish I Were Here," Diana and her daughter sing about medicine and the mind: "Is my brain reborn or is it wrecked? / In freedom or in fear? / Wish I were here."

"Next to Normal" might be most effective on a big Broadway stage, but the Vagabond Players give it life in this small-scale rendition.

Their set isn't much, just

SEE NORMAL, PAGE B4

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

SASH holds its Fall Show, Sashpocalypse

SASH, FROM B4
job of representing the a cappella world.

Being the only a cappella group on campus that fuses music from Bollywood films and contemporary Western pop, the group proved that they could effortlessly intertwine the two types of music together in a perfect fusion.

Soloists Kishore Bharadwaj and Swati Goel blended Rascal Flatts' "What Hurts the Most" and Vishal Shekhar's "Tu Jahaan" quite nicely, while Anuja Shah and Hyunjong Lee brought down the house on a mix of Maroon 5's "Moves Like Jagger" and A.R.

Rahman's "Mukala Mukabula."

The group's incredible beatboxing really elevated the standard of their performance.

Student groups from other universities visited Hopkins to perform at Sashpocalypse, including University of Maryland — Baltimore County's Adaa (a Bollywood fusion group) and the national raas champions from George Washington University, Raas.

Both performed prettv solid dance routines as they sashaved and stomped across the stage in sync to catchy Bollywood beats. Rutgers University Punjabi dance



COURTESY OF NIRALI CHAUHAN
Dance groups from Hopkins and other universities thrilled the crowd.



COURTESY OF NIRALI CHAUHAN
Kranti's performance featured a fusion of Bollywood and Western pop songs with a strong beatboxing support.

group Bhangra, University of Virginia Bollywood fusion dance team Sharaara, and Stony Brook University fusion a cappella group YUVA were invited, but unable to attend the event because of Hurricane Sandy.

In short, SASHPOCALYPSE was a jam-packed program that left the audience exhausted after the entire show — but it was worth it for the energy and exhilaration of the performers in and of itself. Assuming the world doesn't end this year, it's exciting to imagine what surprises are in store for the SASH, Spring Show next semester.

Don't expect to see "Flight" on a plane

Denzel Washington's new movie cites discussion

By ALLI GRECO
Staff Writer

"Flight," starring Denzel Washington, premiered in theaters nationwide on Friday, November 2, 2012.

While the film's lack of originality is disappointing, it provokes discussion about key social issues.

"Flight" tells the story of Whip (Denzel Washington), a highly skilled commercial airline pilot whose expertise is put to the test when his plane unexpectedly descends from high altitude.

Whip must pull a series of complex maneuvers to safely land his plane and save his passengers' lives.

After he succeeds in doing so, Whip wakes up in the hospital battered and honored by many as a hero — that is, until certain secrets about his personal life bubble up to the surface as he recovers.

In spite of being a wonderful pilot and having miraculously landed an enormous airplane à la Sully Sullenberger, who landed a plane in the Hudson River in 2009, Whip undergoes a thorough federal investigation for drug abuse.

Was the reason for the plane's descent Whip's fault, or was there a legitimate malfunction?

Even more importantly, will public opinion embrace him as a hero, or frame him as a fraudulent addict?

To his credit, Washington gives an admirable performance of a conflicted individual.

For instance, his character is first introduced nearly passed out, dazed after a dangerous night of sex and drugs.

Here, Washington offers a very convincing portrayal of a hopeless and out-of-control addict who has lost his sense of himself, although he might have lived a stable and accomplished life in years past.

Admirably, after that shocking scene, Washington snaps out of this side of his character and taps into the organized, in-control pilot that Whip is forced to be.

It is a difficult dichotomy to convey to the audience, but Washington pulls it off.

His performance may be interesting, but his character type is not.

Moviegoers have seen characters like Whip before: someone who is great at what he does for a living, but also struggles with addiction (Dr. House (TV's House), Johnny Cash

(Walk the Line), and Bad Blake (Crazy Heart) are all good examples).

Whip is not a new kind of hero to appear on the big screen.

The trajectory of Whip's tale as a tragic hero is too predictable: a stereotypical man down on his luck that jeopardizes his life in a major way through his addiction, struggles with temptations, such as his drug supplier (John Goodman), and faces the court of public opinion as he struggles to repair his dignity.

Nothing about this series of events is refreshing to a viewer, and neither are some of the movie's most underwhelming moments, such as Whip's interactions with his attorney (Don Cheadle) as he faces prosecution.

Their on-screen chemistry is unconvincing, and Whip never fully processes the gravity of the situation he is in.

Even so, "Flight" gets its audience members to think about some major topics centered on both transportation and philosophy.

On the nature of America's transportation system, how closely do its top officials screen pilots before they take control of a plane full of passengers? Can passengers trust them to keep us safe? What is the federal government doing to enforce safety measures and curb drug circulation among pilots?

Given the volume of people who will be traveling by air for the upcoming Thanksgiving Day holiday, these questions are seen particularly pertinent.

On the philosophical side of the equation, can drug addiction be reconciled with acts of heroism? Whip may have been high when he landed the plane, but he did land it, and he came out alive with many passengers.

In the real world, are people who struggle with substance abuse or other physical or mental problems incapable of becoming a hero, and should those negative struggles blot out the positive actions they might carry out?

Hopefully, future viewers of "Flight" will be able to forgive its weaker components and extract the more positive ones, emerging from the theater not terrified of planes, but rather, motivated to ask challenging questions and to be a more responsible traveler in the future.

Next to Normal is definitely worth your viewership

NORMAL, FROM B3
an open center surrounded by a few doors.

It lacks the ambition of the face-like house design used on Broadway, but this simpler stage also works.

The worst moment of the production is thankfully very brief, but it comes at a crucial point in the play.

A dummy is used to stand in for Diana, and this figure is so obviously fake that it briefly takes away from the drama of the sequence.

But to compensate for the lack of scenery, the focus is drawn more intently on the performers.

Particularly impressive in this production is Darren McDonnell as Dan, Diana's desperately loyal husband.

It's heartbreaking when he expresses his



COURTESY OF TOM LAUER VIA VAGABOND PLAYERS
The musical tells the story of Diana (Shannon Wollman)'s mental illness.

character's tragic love and frustration. Dan's best song is perhaps "I Am the One."

In this number, he wearily tells his wife, "I am the one who knows you / I am the one who cares / I am the one who's always been there / I am the one who's helped you / And if you think that I just don't give a damn / Then you just don't know who I am."

Another stand-out performance is Julia Capizzi's Natalie. She brings a vibrant earnestness to her character's pain.

As the star, Wollman's Diana also holds her ground. She plays despondent just as well as manic.

Henry, Natalie's boy-

friend, is depicted as awkwardly charming by Jim Baxter. Baxter seems to really get his character, right down to the slouching posture.

Chris Jehnert is effectively enthralling and eerie as Gabe.

And Tom Burns keeps his double doctor roles from fading into the background, astutely allowing an emotional connection to develop between psychiatrist, patient and audience.

The music in the Vagabond Players' *Next to Normal* is generally very compelling.

It is a lively rock score, performed with energy and enthusiasm.

The lyricist, Brian Yorkey, has a talent for hav-

ing multiple characters sing the same lyrics while implying vastly different meanings for each of them.

The best songs are probably the faster-paced ones, such as "You Don't Know," "I'm Alive," "Aftershocks" and "The Break."

These manage to be both emotionally touching and viscerally exciting.

However, the Vagabond Players perform most of the songs noticeably slower than the Broadway or album versions.

This change is especially evident in the should-be rapid number, "Aftershocks."

This dulling of the pace has the effect of lessening the song's intensity.

On a technical note, Gabe, Henry and the doctor could benefit from louder microphones. Their softer voices are at times drowned out by the music or the other actors.

However, any mistakes are overshadowed by *Next to Normal*'s transcendence as a show.

Most essential, the core emotions are present in this production. That's what moves the audience, and that's why the Vagabond Players ultimately succeed in their production of *Next to Normal*.

Next to Normal is playing in "America's Oldest Continuous Little Theatre" through Nov. 25th.

Strand, poet laureate, speaks to Hopkins

POET FROM B3
little chandeliers." If it were my own grandfather, I would have been disturbed; but since it's Strand, it's hilarious, especially when he tacked on, "I like the Spanish translation much better. 'Testículos Fantaseamos.'"

The Writing Seminars will continue its Fall 2012 readings series this coming Tuesday, November 13. French Canadian fiction writer Heather O'Neill, whose original reading was rescheduled due to Hurricane Sandy, will read from her new novel, *The Girl Who Was Saturday Night*, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Remsen Hall Auditorium.



COURTESY OF STEPHY MILLER VIA VAGABOND PLAYERS
Jim Baxter and Julia Capizzi star as Henry and Natalie, respectively, in the Vagabond Players' *Next to Normal*.



COURTESY OF WWW.PARAMOUNT.COM/FLIGHT
Denzel Washington's Whip must confront his past after his heroic act.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



COURTESY OF EAGLESBAND.COM
Seeing The Eagles in concert is one of Leanne's favorite memories

The Eagles concert that changed my life

One of my friends swears an Eagles concert changed her life.

I was standing next to her at that concert, and I believe her.

Live music has an energy and a power that recorded music cannot capture.

Whether it's a single guitarist on a dorm room bed, or a legend playing a sold-out stadium, a live performance offers a listener something that headphones and a home sound system just can't convey.

But what is this intrinsic spell that live music

casts over its audience and drives fans to spend paycheck after paycheck on tickets they may not even be able to afford?

What makes people see the same artist more than a hundred times, or drive across the country to see a performer who is playing a half hour set at a music festival?

On a superficial level, I'd say it has something to do with the camaraderie among fans and the physical sensations involved in attending a show.

There is nothing quite like screaming lyrics with a room or stadium full of other people who are just as excited to be screaming those lyrics as you are.

There is a shared sense of purpose, an immersion into a community of like-minded individuals.

They are all there for the sole purpose of shouting along with you when the lead singer calls out your city's name. They understand you.

A live show makes the music your primary focus, and that allows it to become a physical experience.

The floor shakes with the bass, the crowd pushes into you, the lights flash, and the music takes on a concrete form: it tastes like beer, smells like sweat, looks like the Aurora Borealis, and feels like a truck hitting the building.

You can't stand still because the beat is dropping and the crowd is swaying, or you can't move because the sentiment of the lyric has you enchanted.

Sure, it requires a certain level of self-indulgence to experience live music in this way, but if you allow yourself to do so, it's hard not to get caught up in the atmosphere of a show.

However, the superpower of a live performance is in its ability to

create the relationship between performer and audience.

Recordings attempt to cultivate this relationship as well, but ultimately fail to satisfy.

We fall in love with recorded music, but recorded music never quite loves us back in the way we want.

A live performance establishes an immediate relationship.

You are here to see them and, more importantly, they are here to play for you.

Some performers spend as much time talking to their audience as they do playing in order to magnify

this effect.

I attended a Matt Nathanson show where he shared personal anecdotes about the writing of every song.

At a concert at Rams Head Live, Guster opened with the song "Architects and Engineers," which includes the lyrics, "I live on the second floor/ of an old row house down in Baltimore."

Live performances don't require this kind of personalization though.

Phish, a band best loved for its live performances and renowned for its devoted fan base, played the final set of Bonnaroo this year as if there were no audience.

We stood in the pit in ankle deep mud while it rained, and everyone around us sang back every line of every song.

However, the band played without even looking up and acknowledging that there was anyone out there.

Some of the people we talked to as we waited hours in line to get up front for the show shared stories from their previous Phish concerts.

They loved Phish because the band members didn't resort to nonmusical communication, but loved them back by letting them witness spontaneous musical creation.

I remember each show I have attended distinctly.

For a variety of reasons, each different from the next, I wouldn't take back the money or time I spent on them.

Did the Eagles change my life when I saw them perform "Hotel California?"

Maybe not, but it was not only one of the greatest concert experiences of my life, it remains one of the most inspirational memories of my life.

"Express yourself," Brandi Carlile shouted to the crowd at the Lyric Opera House in Baltimore last Thursday night as she prepared to start her set.

This was the singer and her band's first performance since they were stranded in NYC during Hurricane Sandy, and Carlile wanted the crowd to be themselves and enjoy the show after the hectic week.

Blitzen Trapper, an alternative country band from Portland, Oregon opened the show to a fairly empty auditorium.

They were exactly what one would expect from a Portland band — mostly bearded men, with the lead singer, Eric Earley, sporting some flannel.

They had a very unique sound for their first song, but all of their songs were very similar, usually involving a harmonica and synthesized sounds and played by keyboardist and guitarist Erik Menteer.

At first, Menteer looked like he didn't fit in because he was wearing a preppy grey sweater. Halfway through the set, he took his sweater off because he was getting really into the music. He was headbanging to the music while the other band members were way more chill. At one point, he even started gyrating with his keyboard. The best part was when he showcased his tambourine skills.

As their set progressed, the auditorium started to fill up with people waiting for Brandi Carlile to appear. Blitzen Trapper finally finished, after thanking a member of Carlile's band for loaning them a guitar after theirs "drowned" in the hurricane. The lights went back on in the auditorium, and there was about a 15-minute break so they could redo the set.

Soon enough, the lights went back down, revealing a set with a shimmering backdrop. The show started with a single turntable in the center of the stage, representing Carlile's love for anything vinyl. The band members gradually came on stage and started playing music.

Carlile was the last to walk on, playing the drums for the rest of the song. After telling the crowd how excited she was to be in Baltimore, she started off by sing-

ing "Raise Hell," from her newest album, Bear Creek.

Her voice was extremely powerful in person and showcased her emotional connection to the song.

It was obvious that she truly enjoyed her performance. It was strange to hear the lyrics, "You gotta raise, raise hell," when the audience members were sitting in their seats and barely moving.

It was also very strange to be at a concert where everyone was sitting down, as there was no room to get up and dance.

She continued with "Dreams," one of her more popular songs, and then "Late Morning Lullaby," a quieter and less well-known songs.

Carlile transitioned seamlessly from quiet and pure notes to louder and stronger notes. She had such a large range and her voice was just as powerful in person as it sounds on her recordings.

Throughout her set, she seamlessly used the stage to connect with the rest of her band. During the guitar solos, she jumped up and down with one of the guitarists, showcasing the seamless choreography that Blitzen Trapper lacked. It was obvious that she really cared about the members of her band and that performing for the audience was exactly what they wanted to be doing.

A few songs into her

set, she stopped to explain what her and the band had been through for the past few days.

They had arrived in NYC on Sunday night because they had two concerts at Beacon Theatre, only to have those concerts postponed due to the storm. Carlile was also supposed to sing "Hallelujah" with Rufus Wainwright and appear on NPR. She

joked about how frustrating it was to not have been able to sing with Wainwright, and then sang "Hard Way Home."

She then went over to the piano, and sang the heartbreakingly quiet "Bend Before It Breaks," showcasing not only her talent at multiple instruments, but the emotions she puts into her songs ("I can make my own mistakes, let it bend before it breaks.")

This was even more evident when she and the band took off all of their microphones and sang "What Can I Say" completely unplugged. Her voice was just as strong without all of the equipment.

Throughout the song, she kept switching which side of the stage she stood on so that she could connect with everyone in the audience. One of the strings players did the same. Finally, at the end of the song, the entire crowd stood up. The awk-

ward seats no longer mattered, as Carlile had managed to connect to every single person in the room.

The songs only got better through the rest of the set.

She alternated between songs from Bear Creek and old favorites like "Dying Day."

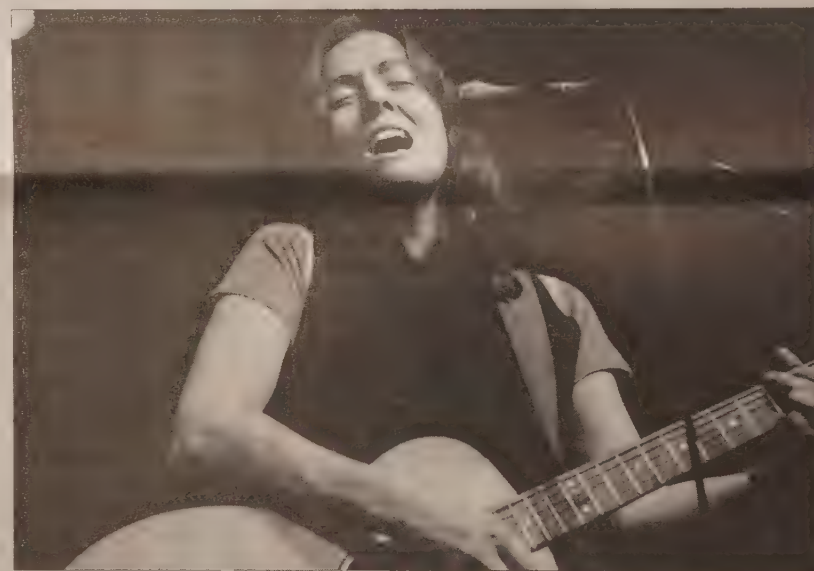
A highlight was when she said that she was about to sing a punk rock, country song and started in on Dolly Parton's "Jolene." It was easy to see how Carlile interpreted the song as punk rock, as she used her strong vocal skills to pour out the emotions of losing someone to another girl.

The best moment of the entire concert, however, was when she thanked the crowd and started playing the chords to what many would call her best song, "The Story."

The word "yes" erupted from the entire crowd once they realized what song she was singing. By the time she sang her last, "Oh yeah, and it's true, that I was made for you," everyone was standing up again, and all of the adorable couples were holding hands.

"The Story" would've been a perfect finale song in itself, but Carlile predictably came back on stage for her encore set, which was just as entertaining as the rest of the show. She sang favorites such as "Oh Dear," and just when it seemed like she would keep singing forever, she and the band left the stage.

-Rachel Witkin



COURTESY OF BRANDICARLILE.COM
Brandi Carlile sounded just as good at the Lyric Opera House as she does on her recorded tracks.

Shows we want to resurrect: Pushing Daisies

Before freshman year at Hopkins, I had only watched two TV shows. I can't even claim to have grown up watching Cartoon Network. There are two reasons for this.

First, my parents were those parents who were of the opinion that watching cartoons rotted your brain. (Of course, they also apparently think that I turned gay because of my obsession with musical theatre, so I would take what they say with a grain of salt.)

The second reason, which is related to the first, is that our house did not have cable.

But for whatever reason, they started letting me watch more television by my junior year in high school. And thus began my first love affair with a television show in 2007.

As the first show I watched live every week as it aired, "Pushing Daisies" is the show that will always have a special place in my heart.

For those of you who have never seen this show, the basic plot revolves around Ned (Lee Pace), a piemaker who can bring people back from the dead

with a touch. However, if he touches that person again, he or she will die again. Permanently.

If he doesn't touch the person again within a minute, though, someone else in the vicinity will die.

In the show, Ned works with Emerson Cod (Chi McBride) to solve murders, but things get complicated when he brings his childhood sweetheart back to stay.

I initially watched this show because I was still obsessed with *Wicked*

at the time, and Kristin Chenoweth played the supporting role of Olive Snook, a waitress at Ned's pie shop who is infatuated with him.

I quickly fell in love with the quirky characters and witty one-liners ("Follow the yellow thick hose!") that permeated the entire show. This show also featured unique crimes every week. How many crimes shows have you seen where the victims are hugged to death or fried in their own fried chicken batter?

The show was set up like a morbid fairy tale, with a narrator (Jim Dale) in the background setting the stage for every



COURTESY OF FANPOP.COM
The one show Flo wishes she could resurrect? *Pushing Daisies* for sure.

episode with a (usually depressing) story about Ned's childhood and who would then reappear every so often in the rest of the episode to explain things or transition between scenes.

The characters, though, made the show for me. Ned was adorable in all his reluctant nature, Chuck's optimism was irritating, but refreshing, Emerson's snark was hilarious, and Olive's tendency to burst into song satisfied my fangirl heart.

Unfortunately, this show was one of the ones victimized by the writers'

strike, and it was canceled after only two seasons.

The fandom is strong, though, and people still talk about it as a show that was canceled way before its time.

When I have a bad day, or when I just want to indulge in some nostalgia, I pick out an episode of this show. I giggle at Emerson and Olive and I let Ned and Chuck soothe the romantic in me.

I may have new television obsessions now, but "Pushing Daisies" was my first true show, and you never forget your first show.



Leanne Gossels
On Deck With

CARTOONS, ETC.

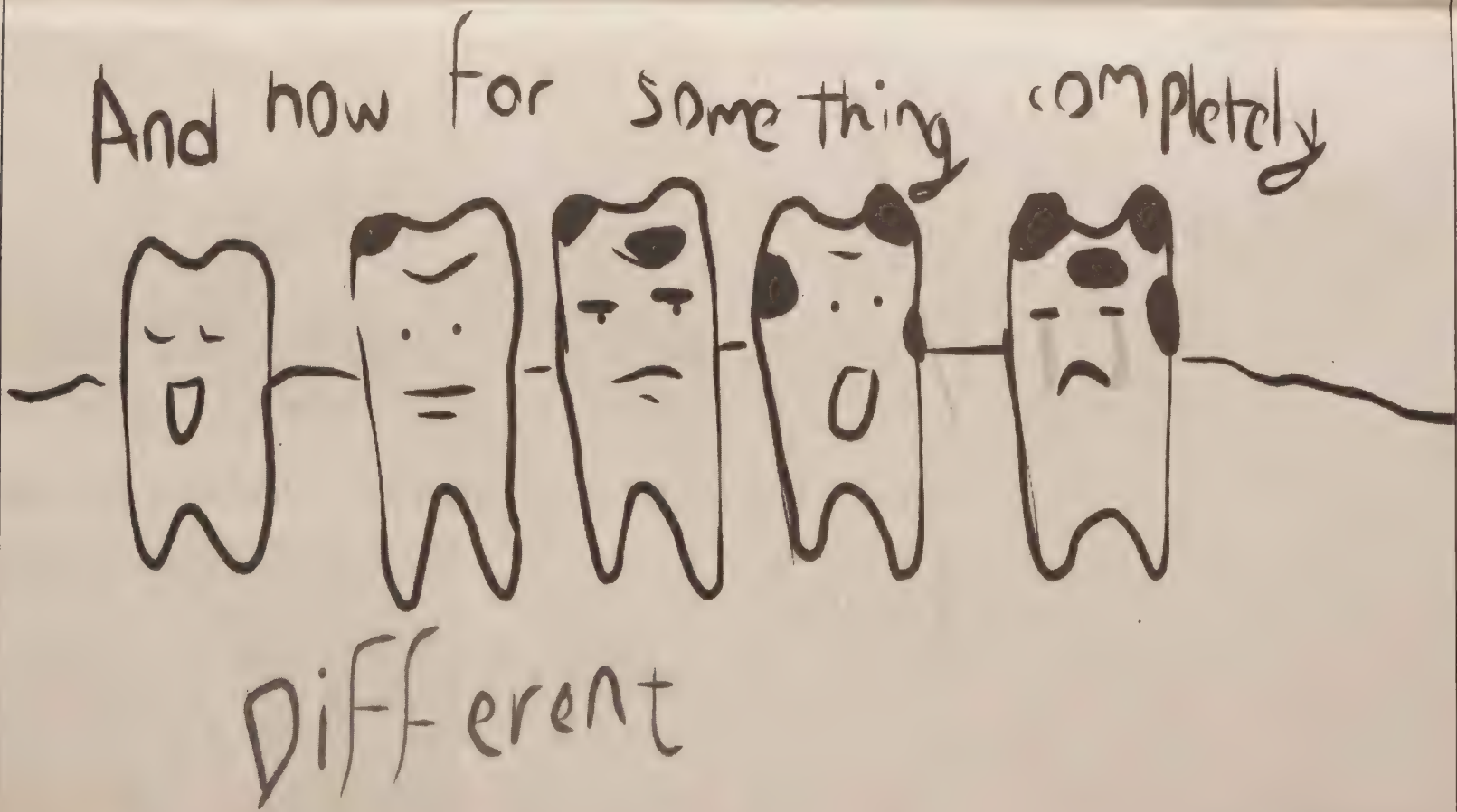
Don't Take Naps at Night!

By A. Kwan



Margin Notes

By Takoyaki



After The Psychopharmacology Exam

By A. Kwan



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Webster report pushes for gun policy reforms

By ELLE PFEFFER
Science & Technology Editor

Prompted by the mass shootings in Aurora, Colo. and Oak Creek, Wis. this summer and by concern over how the media represented the events, researchers at the Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research have published a report discussing public opinion of gun control and policies that could be pursued to decrease gun violence.

Daniel Webster, director of the Center and a professor at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, expressed his distress over the party line given by the media that gun control is not favored by the public. "We believe that there's a lot of research that says other-

wise," Webster said. The report states that in reality most Americans would agree that they don't want guns in the hands of those that will use them dangerously.

Webster has been working in this field for the past 21 years, originally propelled by the high crime rate in Baltimore during the early 1990s. "It was really at epidemic levels," he said, citing 400 homicides per year at the time. More recently in 2010, over 30 thousand people in the U.S. were killed due to gun violence, according to the report.

Generic questions about gun control and ignorance among the public about existing gun laws are at the basis of resistance to

SEE GUN CONTROL, PAGE B8

Health Leads speaker addresses Obamacare

HEALTH LEADS, FROM A1 almost twenty years to rebuild the political will for a major overhaul of the healthcare system and the future of universal healthcare is auspicious thanks to Obama's reelection.

With his victory, the Republican party may eventually dial down their heated disapproval of the legislation and seek compromises. Republican leaders have already shown willingness to accept universal healthcare as a fundamental ideology of our country.

Del Monte suggested the audience to read the newspaper in search of new "doors" that are being open by bipartisan compromises in the next few months.

To clarify the intricate details of the Affordable Care Act, it is important to understand the overarching ideas in Obama's plan. A fundamental component of the Act requires all health insurance companies to include a standardized form that provides scenarios under which coverage does or does not apply. In addition, companies are required to include terms used in health insurance and their corresponding definitions. The Act also specifies the procedure under which the public will be enrolled in health insurance.

Within each state, Del Monte predicted the establishment of joint offices that handle the health insurance application process for a more seamless transition for people



COURTESY OF MICHAEL YAMAKAWA

Mark Del Monte, lead attorney for the American Academy of Pediatrics, spoke about healthcare and Obama.

without insurance. Currently, when one applies for health insurance, forms that indicate income and pre-existing conditions must be completed. The federal bureaucracy then takes the provided information and categorizes each person into different socioeconomic classes. These classes are mainly based on income. "Roughly, these levels are defined as the following: at 0 percent poverty level, the person is enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP for children; at 100 percent poverty level, they are on the next rung of the ladder; at 200 percent, 300 percent, 400 percent, they just keep climbing the lad-

der" Del Monte explained.

While there has been a high approval rate for the content of the Act, the constitutionality of the law still remains to be discussed. People who oppose the legislation claim that the law violates the Bill of Rights under which the government cannot mandate individuals to purchase a certain product. Since health care is a service, the federal government cannot pass a law that forces people to buy insurance. The same argument resonated with others who fear big government which provided momentum for the rise of the Tea Party movement.

Though the plan is fairly detailed, there are still some uncertainties about the Act. The first concern is the establishment of exchange offices. Ideally, in these offices, the petitioners fill

out the required forms for health insurance and enroll in different social safety nets as needed such as Medicaid or food stamps. When

asked about the prospects of the establishments of these offices, Del Monte stated that "the offices are like a unicorn; you know what they are supposed to look like but you have never seen one". He suggested that these offices are ideologically appealing,

but the practicality of conjoining the efforts of multiple government branches to establish such a vast, multifaceted service may be far-fetched, and thus may only come to fruition in the future.

There are many other potential problems within universal health care, but, "you just have to look at the direction at which the country is taking...these plans are supposed to help people, as long as these plans help the poor and the children, we are in the right direction," says Del Monte.

As long as these plans help the poor and the children, we are in the right direction.

—MARK DEL MONTE, LEAD ATTORNEY, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDI-



COURTESY OF WWW.FRANKLINGUNSHOP.COM

Private gun sellers may bypass the background checks for their purchasers.

Findings suggest neurological basis of obesity

By ALICE HUNG
Science & Technology Editor

As the world gravitates toward the two polar extremes of body weight — obesity and anorexia — scientists struggle to determine the underlying biological causes, hoping to find effective treatments to combat these disorders.

Bradford Lowell, physician scientist and professor of medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), recently published novel findings on the neurological mechanisms regulating energy

expenditure and fat-burning.

In the United States alone, approximately 37.5 percent of the adult population is obese. While there are many sociocultural factors influencing the development of these disorders, psychological and physiological factors are often the forefront considerations when determining treatment plans.

Biologically, it has been well established that the human body maintains homeostasis via precise internal processes. Our bodies are frequently compared

to a thermostat, which activates either the cooling or the heating system depending on the direction of deviation from the preset temperature.

Likewise, the human body has specific set points for various properties, including the availability of blood sugar for energy. When we eat, the food is broken down into small molecules that our cells can use. Carbohydrates, for instance, are broken down to glucose and then converted to ATPs.

Depending on how much glucose we have

available to convert to ATPs and whether this is enough to fuel our energy requirements, the body then uses various hormones to regulate our intake. This gives us the sensations of hunger and fullness.

Leptin, for instance, is a hormone produced by adipose cells in proportion to the amount of body fat we

SEE OBESITY, PAGE B8

Easter Island statues may have "walked"

By ERICK SUN
Sports Editor

Despite the lack of modern instruments capable of lifting heavy objects, the Rapa Nui people of what we now call Easter Island in the southeastern Pacific Ocean somehow managed to move mammoth stone statues weighing about 4.35 tons.

The statues, called moai, are monoliths of humans with an appearance familiar to most people: disproportionately large heads, solemn looking faces and squat bodies seemingly overlooking the island. According to anthropological studies, the moai most likely represented ancestors or former chiefs, with the enlarged heads illustrating the importance placed on the head by the indigenous people.

Of the 887 moai found on the island, they average a height of 13.3 feet, a width of about 5.25 feet across, and can weigh as much as 86 tons. In addition, many unfinished or abandoned moai have been found littering the island as well. The statues were carved out of a quarry formed from an extinct volcano and were subsequently shipped across the island. How the people of the island moved these enormous statues, however,



COURTESY OF WWW.WORLDDHISTORICALSITES.COM

The methods used to transport the moai have been long-debated.

er, has long been the subject of debate.

According to most hypotheses, the statues were transported by being rolled on logs chopped from the island's own forest. This idea then led to the concept coined 'ecocide', where the prodigious amount of statues required an equally prodigious amount of logs, causing deforestation, resource depletion and even the occasional story of cannibalism as the remaining inhabitants fought to survive on the desolate island. Because of

modern industry, writers have even used the fall of the Rapa Nui people as a warning against our current resource consumption; a potential glimpse at our future if we do not curb our use of resources today.

The story of Rapa Nui's demise has been supported by writers such as Jared Diamond, and dramatized in movies like Kevin Reynolds' "Rapa Nui" (1994). However, a new theory proposed by archaeologist Carl Lipo in the *Journal of*

SEE EASTER ISLAND, PAGE B8

1,000 Genomes Project reaches milestone

By MALI WIEDERKEHR
For The News-Letter

This month marked the first phase culmination of "The 1,000 Genomes Project," an extensive five-year study that sought to determine the gene sequences of 1,092 individuals. The project's well-represented research team comprised of about 400 researchers from around the world including Aravinda Chakravarti, a member of the Institute of Genetic Medicine at the Hopkins School of Medicine.

Launched in 2008, the Project seeks to examine human genetic variation

using a multinational analysis of four major ancestry groups: American, European, African and East Asian. By studying variations in the genomes of people with different migratory history, the researchers are hoping to identify specific genes that cause disease.

Genetic diseases are caused by errors in gene sequences, which are comprised of DNA. These gene sequences are so intricate that even a minor error can lead to dramatic physical consequences.

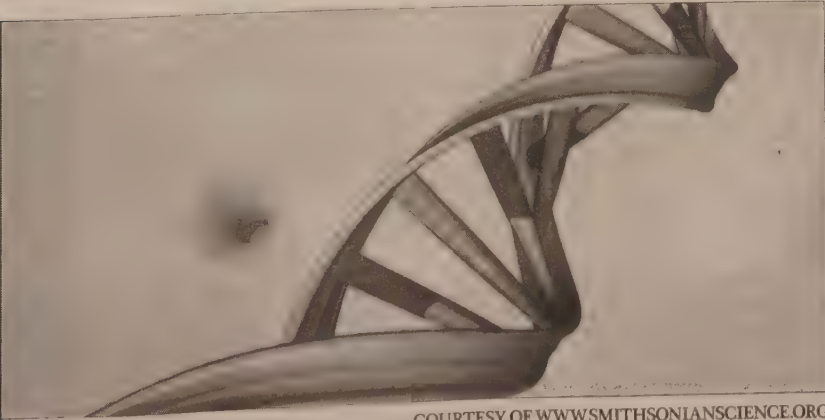
For example, sickle cell anemia is a severe genetic disease that distorts the

shape of red blood cells and causes them to carry oxygen in an inefficient manner. This disease is caused by a single error in the beta-globin gene — a point mutation — meaning that one DNA base pair in the whole gene sequence is wrong.

Let's keep this error in perspective: There are approximately 3 billion DNA base pairs in the human genome. It takes a mere base pair exchange, the smallest of accidents, to cause the devastating physiological problems of sickle cell disease.

Given the precise

SEE GENOME, PAGE B9



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The genome library has been continuously expanding to provide deeper insights to the nature of genes.



Archaeologist Carl Lipo and his team formed their hypothesis based on the orientation of the statues found today on Easter Island.

New transport method for moai proposed

EASTER ISLAND, FROM B9
Archaeological Science offers a different mechanism of transporting the moai. "We constructed a precise three-dimensional 4.35 metric ton replica of an actual statue and demonstrated how positioning the center of mass allowed it to fall forward and rock from side to side causing it to 'walk,'" Lipo and his team of U.S. and local researchers wrote in the paper.

The mechanism, displayed in a YouTube video titled "Easter Island moai 'walked,'" offers a novel explanation for the baffling mystery.

In the video demonstration, only 18 people were required to get the replica moai "walking" as they heaved on three separate

ropes tied to the top of the head. Although getting the statue to start rocking back and forth took effort, once the team had their statue moving it was a simple matter of timing in order to keep the moai moving forward in a slow, but steady manner.

Lipo used the nature of the abandoned moai he found throughout the island as evidence to support his hypothesis. He noted that on downhill sections of the island, most of the statues are face down, and vice versa, suggesting the enormous weight of the moai made it too difficult to continue moving one that had fallen over.

Lipo's hypothesis not only offers another explanation for moai transportation, but also debunks the

belief that the indigenous people killed themselves off by deforesting their own island for the sake of their statues.

Instead, more a recent hypothesis suggests that the arrival of human immigrants led to the island's depletion of natural resources. Rats quickly took over the island, eating the nuts and seeds of plants, and preventing fertilization.

Furthermore, the island's conversion into a sheep ranch in 1868 by French mariner Jean-Baptiste Dutrou-Bornier would have completed the ecological ruin of Easter Island as the sheep destroyed any remaining shrubbery, causing massive soil erosion.

While the proposal of

"walking statues" may seem like a trivial scientific pursuit, its ability to offer clarification on the history of the island illustrates the importance of even the smallest anthropological and archaeological searches to better understand early human societies.

GUN CONTROL, FROM B7
reforms, Webster suggested. When people are asked whether laws should be made stricter, less strict or stay the same, not addressing any policy in particular, many people are bound to think that reforms would strip away the rights of law abiding citizens. That is incorrect.

Typically, the gun control debate arises in the media after the occurrence of mass shootings, and not otherwise. The issue was discussed only briefly during the second presidential debate. Webster says that the violence has become an "unacceptable norm" in our country in part because the greatest burden of the issue falls on poorer populations.

Mass shootings, however, catch people off guard. "In some ways, I think it's the worst time to talk about it because the incidents themselves are a little too unique."

The report discusses specific high-risk groups that should be targeted to be banned from legal gun ownership, and that the

current restrictions are not sufficient. Gun possession is illegal for those under the age of 18, but Webster and his team recommend expanding this age requirement to include youth up to the age of 20. They also suggest that people convicted of misdemeanor crimes (in addition to restrictions for felons) as well as alcoholics should be stopped from possession.

Other grave issues are the loopholes that allow private sellers to go unregulated, selling guns to people without background checks and exporting them to other states.

Moving forward with President Obama's second term, Webster has set realistic hopes for the evolution of gun policy. "I'm not overly optimistic. He might take baby steps in some direction... In terms of new legislation, I don't expect much," he said. Webster hopes that the language of the debate will veer away from the "pro-gun" and "anti-gun" terms and that the President will take leadership in starting a new dialogue.

Physics Briefs

Laser lights and computers can see past some barriers

While this is certainly not the stuff of sci-fi goggles or x-ray vision, the ability to see past certain barriers is starting to come into focus. Researchers at the University of Twente in the Netherlands developed a technique that allows them to "see" through very thin layers of material that otherwise is not "see-through" in the everyday sense.

Publishing their results in the journal *Nature*, the group developed this technique using a disc of ground glass that allows some light to pass through, much like a thin sheet of paper, but does not allow enough light through for us to see past them. They shone a beam of laser light upon the disc, which scatters the projected light. The scattered light reflects from objects behind the disk, which the researchers were able to capture and run through a computer program to decode into an image of the object. The light that makes it back is too scrambled and low in its intensity for the naked eye to interpret.

With further development, the researchers hope to apply this discovery towards radiation-free medical imaging. Skin is another material that has a similar light scattering property fit for this laser light-based imaging.

Ions show potential to improve atomic clocks

When it comes to time accuracy, atomic clocks have been the highest standard for accuracy with nuclear clocks showing theoretical potential to do even better. In the meantime, researchers from the University of Nevada and the University of New South Wales have proposed using atomic clocks based on ions, atoms stripped of their electrons, to further enhance their accuracy.

By removing the elec-



COURTESY OF WWW.TUWEIN.AC.AT
Electrons can be provided with angular momentum, creating a vortex.

trons from the atoms, which they suggest should be bismuth-209, the clock would suffer from the reduction in accuracy that stray magnetic fields in current atomic clocks. Currently these clocks are accurate to one part in 10 to the 17th power and base time off of the transitions of electrons within an atom. Their goal was to increase the accuracy by two orders of magnitude.

While the researchers acknowledged the difficulty in building this clock, it would be much more feasible in the present than building nuclear clocks and advocate for more efforts into improving atomic clocks. Their results are published in the journal *Physical Review Letters*.

New technique makes beam of electrons act like vortexes

Electron microscopy uses beams of electrons quite extensively to image objects too small for us to view with light. Using a twist in quantum mechanics, researchers at the Vienna University of Technology have generated a vortex of electrons that move in a similar fashion to debris that is swept up in a tornado. They published their brief results in the journal *Physical Review Letters*.

The group of researchers provided electrons with an angular momentum, a property of subatomic particles analogous to the circular motion of larger objects in a tornado.

While they had used a grid in previous experiments to split the beam into three, one with no angular momentum and two with opposite, their most recent experiment used a screen coated with a thin layer of silicon dioxide.

Because the layer is so thin, it does not absorb much of the electrons intensity, but it gives it a phase shift, another intrinsic property of waves, that causes the electrons to move in a vortex, due to the angular momentum. This beam can also transfer its angular momentum to the electrons within the object it hits, affecting its magnetic properties. The team sees the possibility of using the beam to cause other atoms and molecules to rotate as well.

Light sensor can detect faint amount of photons

Scientists at the Fraunhofer Institute for Microelectronic Circuits and Systems IMS in Duisburg and their collaborators have developed a sensor sensitive enough to detect small amounts of photons. The underlying technology is based off of an "avalanche breakdown" effect that intensifies the signal of each photon.

The sensor also processes the images directly as a camera, making image processing very rapid. Similar camera-on-a-chip technology has been used in traffic safety initiatives in Europe.

— Briefs by Ian Yu

GABA regulates energy expenditure

OBESITY, FROM B7
have. It is a satiety signal that tells us to stop eating. Similarly, other physiological signals are used to control our caloric intake so that we have enough energy to fuel normal body functions.

The hypothalamus is an essential neural region that regulates many functions in the body, including energy balance and food intake. This region integrates external inputs, internal motivations, and the body's physiological needs to control our appetite.

If homeostasis is so tightly maintained, what's the purpose of storing fat?

"We were [once] hunters and gatherers, and our meals were infrequent. Our body has evolved... this really efficient ability to store the nutrients and have them on reserve," Farah Madison, a professor of behavioral biology at Hopkins, said.

Originally, this was an extremely adaptive mecha-

nism, but coupled with the easy accessibility of high calorie foods, many have unfortunately stored too much fat, leading to obesity.

"These mechanisms were not originally designed for food levels we have now," Madison said.

To better understand how the brain controls appetite and weight management, Lowell and colleagues focused in their study on the neurons in the arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus.

The research team engineered mice with a defect in the arcuate nucleus neurons, preventing them from releasing GABA, an inhibitory neurotransmitter. Experiments showed that these mice were significantly obese, despite normal food intake.

From their results, Lowell conclude that GABA neurons in the arcuate nucleus likely play a key role in regulating energy expense, not intake.

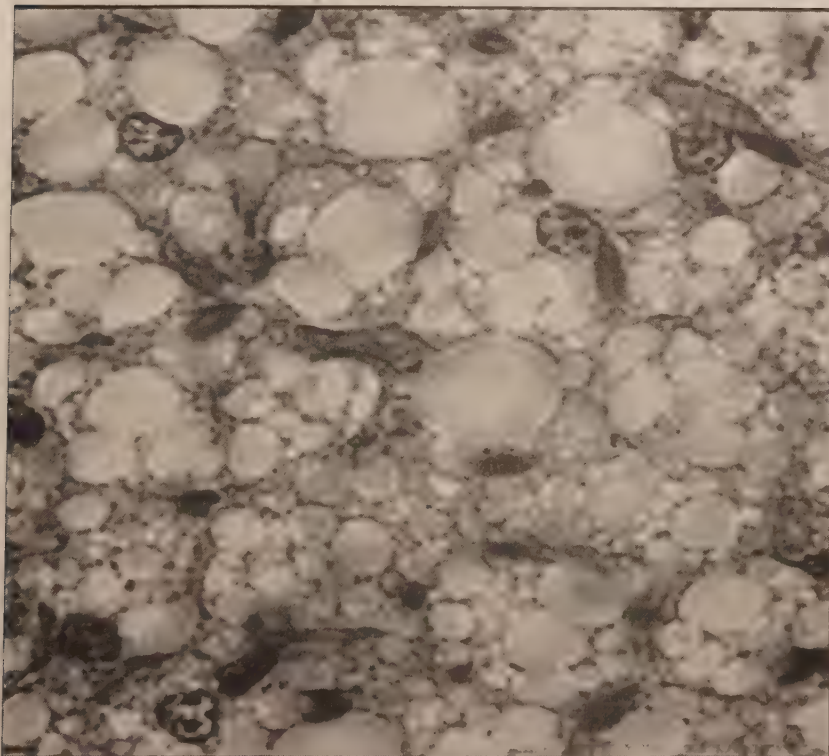
Moreover, a follow-up

study suggested that these GABA neurons play a key role in mediating energy expenditure in brown fat.

There are two types of adipose tissue: white fat and brown fat. While the main function of white fat is to store energy, the primary purpose of brown fat is to generate heat in a process called thermogenesis. The function of brown fat in adults is not well understood, thereby rendering results from this study a crucial advance.

For future studies, Lowell emphasizes the importance of gaining a more complete understanding of the neural pathway underlying energy expenditure.

Lowell hopes that these results will help develop methods that can effectively treat obesity. While our neural circuits may be evolutionarily predisposed to stock up on our fat reserve, scientific advances show promise in overcoming this outdated mechanism.



COURTESY OF WWW.VIVO.COLOSTATE.EDU

According to the study, the neurotransmitter GABA mediates the expenditure of energy from brown fat.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Multidrug resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* eludes drug effects and poses a great challenge in health care. COURTESY OF WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV

Tuberculosis protein structure defined

By MICHAEL YAMAKAWA
Staff Writer

Researchers in the Department of Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry at the Hopkins School of Medicine have discovered the structure of a protein integral to the drug resistance of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infections. This information can provide essential insight into drug design that would inhibit the function of this protein and hopefully increase treatment successes.

Tuberculosis is a common yet deadly infectious disease that typically attacks the lungs and is transmitted by a bacterium called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*Mtb*). In 1993, the World Health Organization declared TB a "global health emergency." As the infection enters the lungs, it travels to the alveoli, which is the last stop for air to exchange oxygen and carbon dioxide with the blood. There, it replicates within the cells that reside in the alveoli, gradually invading the lung and potentially travelling to other parts of the body. Symptoms associated with TB include fevers, chills, weight loss, fatigue and finger clubbing.

Multidrug resistant strains of *Mtb* have been a major challenge for doctors to treat, as they negate the effects of drugs administered to infected patients. In fact, one of the greater challenges of treating tuberculosis is to eradicate the one percent of bacteria that survived the first week of treatment. They are known as persisters, able to change themselves to a deactivated state and slow their cell machinery down significantly.

"The greater problem arises when symptoms recede, and patients tend to stop complying with their drug needs," Mario Bianchet, assistant professor of neurology and one of the co-discoverers, said.

These particularly robust bacteria can form unique bonds in their cell

walls that effectively shelter their cell body. The researchers were able to deduce the structure of the protein responsible for catalyzing these bonds using a technique known as x-ray crystallography. This is a widely used technique that determines the electron density, or arrangement of atoms, of compounds by shooting a beam of x-rays and analyzing the diffraction patterns. Essentially, by back-tracing the position and intensity of the diffraction patterns, researchers are able to identify very specific locations where x-rays diffracted off of certain atoms. Using this method, the researchers were able to determine the structure of a protein known as Ldt Mt2, which is able to create special bonds in the cell wall.

Typically, bacteria have a layer around their wall called peptidoglycan, which is a mesh-like blanket of interlocking sugars and amino acids. The most common type of bond that interlinks each component is called D,D 4-3, a name that identifies the position of the bond relative to the structure of the amino acids. Penicillin, the once-called miracle drug, binds to proteins that catalyze these D,D 4-3 linkages that in effect destroys the protective covering of bacteria.

Another type of linkage is the L,D 3-3 linkage, which is catalyzed by the protein of interest, Ldt Mt2. These linkages are highly elusive of drug effects that typically block enzyme functions that produce 4-3 linkages. 3-3 linkages were first identified in 1974 by Juana Wietzerbin; however, it was only until the protein Ldt Mt2 was implicated in the drug resistance of tuberculosis that the biological significance of these linkages was recognized.

Afterwards, it was a major underlying goal of Mario Amzel's lab in the Department of Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry to determine the structure of Ldt Mt2 and to propose a catalytic mechanism that

induces these unique linkages. With their newly published 1.7 angstrom resolution of the protein structure, they provided a crucial stepping stone to designing high-affinity drugs that can inhibit the function of Ldt Mt2, thereby eliminating the drug resistance of tuberculosis. "[It] will enable us and others to design inhibitors of this L-D transpeptidase that may shorten the treatment of TB by being effective against the persistent mycobacterium" states Amzel.

Beyond fighting TB infections, the structure of this protein may pave way for strategies to fight against other pathological agents, including *Enterococcus faecium* and *Clostridium difficile*.

"In the future, we hope to study a family of related enzymes that are expressed in different times of the cell's life cycle," Bianchet said. This may lead to greater insight to periods in the life cycle when certain drugs are most effective.

-Additional reporting by Tony Wu

Genome library expands rapidly

GENOME, FROM B7

nature of the DNA sequence needed for normal function, it makes sense that it contains little variation throughout the human population (humans are thought to be 99.5% genetically identical to one another). However, these variations are considered within the "normal range" as they do not take into account the effect of disease of gene variation.

The 1,000 Genomes Project aims to study individuals in the normal range, which only includes subjects who do not suffer from genetic diseases. The research team believes that studying genetic variability among healthy individuals will grant them the skills necessary to understand what happens when the genome undergoes mistakes. Essentially, the genomes of the healthy subjects will serve as a standard for future scientists studying human genetics.

The study found that some genetic variations appeared more frequently than others. If a gene variation was seen in more than five percent of the samples, it was considered a common variant. If it appeared 0.5 percent, it was termed a low frequency variant. Finally, rare variants were found in less than 0.5 percent.

The frequencies of common variants among the four ancestral groups were pretty consistent and had mostly been known to scientists from previous studies. The real area of interest centered on the other two categories. The study described variants that had been

previously unidentified and attributed them to different populations.

Another name for gene variants is alleles. In sexual reproduction, different alleles get shuffled around when gametes combine and form a new individual. Combining genetic material in sexual reproduction causes genetic drift, which is a change in allele frequency. This change is partly responsible for human genetic variation.

The study that set this type of genetic work into motion was that of the Human Genome Project. In 2003, scientists working on this project unveiled the human genome for the very first time. They also sequenced the ge-

nomes of other organisms including *E. coli*, a fruit fly, and a mouse.

While the Human Genome Project took years to sequence the genome of one human, the 1,000 Genomes Project has utilized advances in technology and data quality and is now capable of sequencing 10 billion bases in 24 hours — that's almost two

... [The genome project] is now capable of sequencing 10 billion bases in 24 hours.

human genomes per day!

In the final phase of the project, scientists are planning on sequencing an additional 1,500 genomes.

With this comprehensive library to guide them, the hope is that the 1,000 Genomes Project will shine a light on the study of genetic disease.



COURTESY OF WWW.OCF.BERKELEY.EDU
There are thousands of genes encoded in our 46 chromosomes.

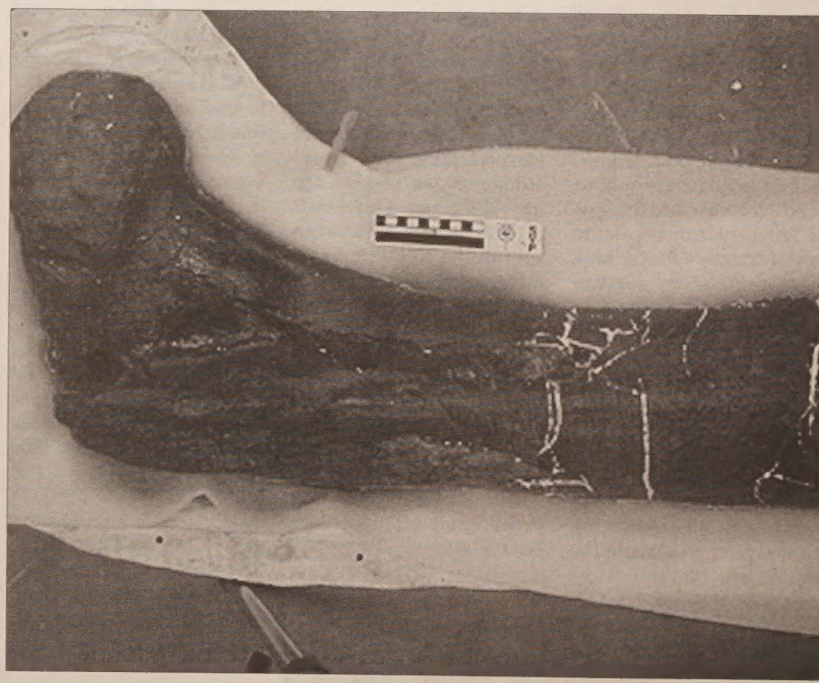
Cope's Law: Could dinosaurs have been bigger?

You may have heard of island gigantism, an interesting phenomenon in which small animals that migrate to islands tend to grow significantly larger. However, Cope's Rule, which was proposed by an American paleontologist Edward Cope in the late 19th century, takes the "bigger is better" perspective a few steps further.

Cope postulated that increases in body size is the trend for population lineages over time. He argued that larger organisms tend to enjoy certain fitness benefits, such as better resistance against predators, short-term famine situations, and rapid climactic changes, as well as increased ability to capture prey, reproduce, and eliminate competition. Sounds like a wicked power-up, but fitness benefits always come with drawbacks. Larger organisms require more food and water, and their longer generation times translate to a longer period of dependence on their mothers.

While Cope's ideas seem to hold true specifically in mammals, there are plenty of exceptions to this rule. A research team led by Gene Hunt, curator in the Department of Paleobiology at the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) in Washington, D.C., wanted to see if Cope's Rule applied to dinosaurs — and it did for some species.

As part of their statistical model, Hunt and colleagues Richard FitzJohn of the University of British Columbia and Matthew



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As part of a statistical model, researchers use a dinosaur's femur to predict the size of the species.

Carrano of the NMNH examined data from dinosaur femurs as an accurate representation of its size. They then looked for temporal correlations of species size, as well as whether there were any upper limits for body size.

Interestingly, when the researchers examined the dinosaur family tree, they found that some clades of dinosaurs, such as ceratopsids and hadrosaurs, indeed abided by Cope's Rule: these clades showed greater increases in size than decreases over time.

Although birds are the modern-day descendants of theropod dinosaurs, the research team decided to exclude them from the study. This was because the evolutionary pressure exerted on birds caused them to become lighter

and smaller to enable better flight.

With regards to the limits on size, the researchers obtained mixed results. Sauropods and ornithomorphs, for one, did not appear to have limiters on how large they could evolve. Sauropods, a gigantic herbivore weighing at least 16 metric tons and more commonly known as the Brontosaurus, were among the largest animals to have ever walked on land.

On the other hand, the size of theropods, which include the infamous *Tyrannosaurus rex*, were found to have plateaued. According to Hunt, this is not particularly surprising, as there are physical limits to how massive a bipedal animal can get while still being able to move. Makes a lot of sense, seeing how most of the weight champions in the modern age are either quadrupedal as elephants

and giraffes, aquatic as blue whales and saltwater crocodiles, or both.

Hunt concludes by saying that, when it comes to evolution, "bigger is better" is not necessarily a hard and fast rule (maybe you could make an argument for larger serving sizes at fast-food restaurants, but that depends on how badly you want to keep your figure). While it may be true that bigger animals are less likely to become prey, even the biggest animals start out small. In addition, it takes a surprisingly long time, usually many millions of years, for the animal to become gigantic enough to avoid becoming lunch. Hence, it is not well-understood why Cope's Rule works.

Hunt, FitzJohn, and Carrano presented the results of their study at the annual meeting of The Geological Society of America on Nov. 4.

This Week: Campus Science Events

—Thursday, Nov. 8:

12 p.m. "Deconstructing the Conveyor Belt" by Susan Lozier of Duke University. [Olin Hall 305]

3 p.m. "Synchronization in Oscillator Networks and Smart Grids" by Francesco Bullo of University of California, Santa Barbara. [Hodson Hall 210]

3:45 p.m. "Degrees as Kinds" by Marcin Morzycki of Michigan State University. [Krieger Hall 111]

—Friday, Nov. 9:

4-5 p.m. "Probing sensory representations with metameric stimuli" by Eero P. Simoncelli of New York University. [Mason Hall Auditorium]

—Monday, Nov. 12:

12-1 p.m. "Structure, Function, and Evolution of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins" by Gary Daughdrill of University of South Florida. [Mergenthaler 111]

SPORTS

W. Soccer falls in CC title game to 'Fords

By KEVIN JOYCE
Staff Writer

The 24th-ranked Blue Jays women's soccer team stormed past Swarthmore in the Centennial Conference semifinal matchup 3-1 on Saturday, on the strength of two goals by junior Christina Convey and a goal by sophomore Hannah Kronick.

Hopkins drew first blood 15 minutes into the first half when Kronick placed a precision pass for Convey in the middle of field. Convey then evaded Swarthmore goalkeeper Reba Magier and followed up with an easy goal on the open net.

Just five minutes later Convey did it again, this time volleying a rebound into the upper left corner of the net from 10 yards out to give the Jays a commanding two goals to nil advantage.

Three minutes later Swarthmore had an opportunity to cut into the Hopkins lead with a free kick attempt by Amber Famiglietti, but failed to capitalize as senior keeper Meredith McGuire made a leaping effort to ward the ball off.

Famiglietti had a chance to redeem herself in the 40th minute, when she lofted a bending corner kick to the far goalpost. Teammate Emily Gale met the ball with a header to slice the Jays' margin in half just before halftime.

For the first 20 minutes of the second half, neither team could maintain much possession deep in the opposing squad's territory, with most of the play staying in the middle of the pitch.

Amy Dipierro for the Garnet missed by a hair in the 73rd minute, and teammate Emma Sindelar also had an excellent chance to equalize the score, but was denied by an outstanding game-saving play by freshman Hope Lundberg.

Hopkins' defense remained steadfast from that point on, and Kronick scored in the 86th minute, landing a kick into the lower left corner of the net to seal the victory for the Jays.

Haverford and Gettysburg faced off in the other semifinal match, with Haverford upsetting the 2nd seeded Bullets 2-1. The last time the Jays faced the Fords they won easily, 5-1.

Sunday afternoon the matchup however was much more tense, with Haverford managing an upset of 2-1, with the

clinching goal coming in the 80th minute.

Hopkins opened the game on fire, with Convey firing a shot on goal that ricocheted off the crossbar just 40 seconds into the match, and the Jays as a whole shooting on goal three times in the first two minutes of the half.

Convey then continued her stellar play in the Centennial Conference tournament by rocketing home a shot in the seventh minute for her third goal of the tourney. The left-footed shot came from the top of the box and sailed past the outstretched goalie Robin Chernow to give the Jays a 2-0 lead.

The string of near-misses for the Jays continued as Hannah Kronick's lofting attempt in the 17th minute just hit the crossbar. Haverford took advantage of Hopkins' offensive misfortunes, with Phoebe Miller registering a header goal off of a well-placed free kick assist by Sarah Hoffman in the 19th minute to knot the game up at 1-1.

Chernow played very well throughout the remainder of the game, making a number of saves to keep the game tied, including stopping a one-on-one attempt by freshman Issy Berkey and another quality Kronick shot.

Much like the previous game, the second half was initially dominated by midfield play, with both teams evenly matched. Haverford broke through in the 73rd minute, but McGuire made the save to keep the score equal. Kronick then got the ball on the other side of the field mere seconds later, but her attempt went wide.

Meg Boyer of the Fords then placed a perfect 30-yard boot into the upper right corner of the net, slipping it just past McGuire's outstretched arms seven minutes later.

The loss ended Hopkins' string of seven straight Centennial Conference titles and gave Haverford its only victory at Homewood Field in the last 18 years. The Fords (14-3-2) were assured a spot in the NCAA tournament, while the Jays (15-4-1) were chosen on Monday to make their eighth straight and eleventh overall appearance in the tourney, as they will host a four-team regional consisting of themselves, Lancaster Bible, third-ranked Virginia Wesleyan, and Rowan that will take place Nov. 10-11.

F&M hands Hopkins first CC loss in 20 games

By JASON PLUSH
Staff Writer

As the final seconds ticked off the clock at Sponaugle-Williamson Field, the Hopkins sideline looked bewildered and shocked as the Blue Jays were handed their first loss of the season, a 14-12 heartbreaker against Franklin & Marshall. The win marked the first win F&M recorded against Hopkins since 2007 and brought the Jays' 22 regular season winning streak to a close, as they were unable to build a lead against a tough F&M team. The win also snapped Hopkins' impressive 20-game Centennial Conference winning streak. Heading into the weekend, the Blue Jays were ranked ninth in the nation among Division III football, making this loss one of the biggest upsets of the season.

The start of the game began with three of the most frustrating offensive drives for the Jays on the season. On each drive, the Hopkins offense made its way inside the F&M 20-yard line, but could not capitalize on any of the opportunities, as the offense turned the ball over on downs on two

of the drives and missed a field goal on the third. Franklin & Marshall was also unable to build any offensive momentum of their own against a very stout Blue Jays defense.

The first score of the game didn't come until the end of the second quarter, when F&M forced a big fumble on the Hopkins 30-yard line. On the next play after the offense took over, F&M junior quarterback E.J. Schneider threaded the needle on a 30-yard touchdown pass into the corner of the end zone, giving the Diplomats a 7-0 lead going into the half after both teams struggled to find any offensive stride throughout the first half.

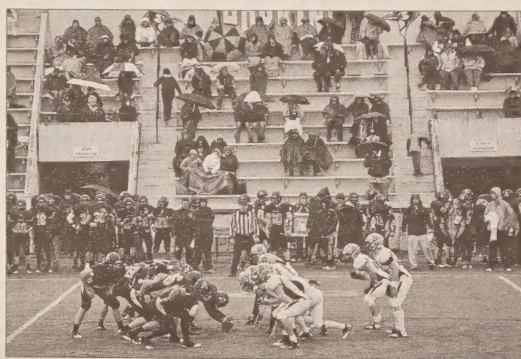
As the third quarter began, Hopkins looked to strike early against the tough F&M defense. Led by running back Jonathan Rigaud, the Blue Jay offense gained solid yards until they were inside the 10-yard line, looking to put up their first points of the day. However, the heroic effort of the F&M defense was able to force the Blue

Jays to turn the ball over on downs on the 4-yard line as Hopkins couldn't capitalize on a golden opportunity to tie up the game. Schneider came back onto the field and put together a very impressive 7-play, 96-yard drive that was capped off by a 19-yard pass to receiver Jordan Zackery on a nifty screen pass that took the Hopkins defense by surprise.

With the offense struggling and in need of quick scores, sophomore quarterback Braden Anderson came into the game hoping to lead the Blue Jays to the end zone. Anderson was able to convert a third and fourth down play to get the ball into F&M territory. He then threw a strike right into the hands of junior receiver Jared Beekman, who was able to outrun and overpower his defender to reach the pylon for a much-needed Hopkins touchdown. However, the special teams were unable to convert on the extra-point attempt and the offense left more points on the field, as the score was now 14-6 in favor of Franklin & Marshall. On the next Hopkins drive, Anderson was able to lead the offense back in-

ing attack with 114 yards and a touchdown, and Daniel Wodicka leading receivers on 10 catches for 102 yards. Senior Taylor Maciow dominated on defense, recording 15 tackles while junior John Rigaud leading the rushing attack with 114 yards and a touchdown, and Daniel Wodicka leading receivers on 10 catches for 102 yards. Senior Taylor Maciow dominated on defense, recording 15 tackles while junior John Rigaud leading the rushing attack with 114 yards and a touchdown, and Daniel Wodicka leading receivers on 10 catches for 102 yards.

In a last desperation attempt, Hopkins tried an onside kick to regain possession one last time before the final whistle sounded. Unfortunately, Franklin & Marshall smothered the ball and secured the victory shortly thereafter, needing only to take one knee to end the game. The loss was a devastating one for Hopkins as they looked to string together a second undefeated season in a row and keep their Centennial winning streak intact, but the offense was unable to convert on more drives, despite driving inside the F&M 20-yard line six times during the game. Overall, the Blue Jays gained more offensive yards than the Diplomats, 447-317 with Anderson throwing for 153 yards and a touchdown, Rigaud leading the rushing attack with 114 yards and a touchdown, and Daniel Wodicka leading receivers on 10 catches for 102 yards. Senior Taylor Maciow dominated on defense, recording 15 tackles while junior John Rigaud leading the rushing attack with 114 yards and a touchdown, and Daniel Wodicka leading receivers on 10 catches for 102 yards.



F&M put together a complete game to defeat the 9-1 Blue Jays. Arena had 12 tackles

FILE PHOTO

side the 20-yard line before being picked off by Sam Messaro, his second interception of the day. However, the Blue Jays defense was able to stand tall, forcing a punt from Franklin & Marshall to regain possession on their own 16-yard line with only 3:23 to play.

On the ensuing offensive drive, the Blue Jays offense went into overdrive, as Anderson picked apart the F&M defense with a combination of key passes and long runs by Rigaud. The drive concluded when Rigaud ran into the end zone from 7-yards out for a touchdown to solidify a 14-play, 84-yard drive, while Anderson showed poise and leadership on the field. With only 27 seconds remaining in the final quarter and the Jays trailing by 2,

and one forced fumble.

The Blue Jays look to get back on track this weekend as rival McDaniel comes into town on Saturday to face off against Hopkins on Homewood Field. While the loss to F&M was a major disappointment, the focus of the team quickly shifted to upcoming McDaniel. Said Rigaud, "The game was definitely an eye opening experience for our team and served as a wake up call. However, we need to focus on the little things going into McDaniel this Saturday. The most important thing is to take care of McDaniel this weekend. Every week is a big game, and preparation starts with practice and film this week."

Anderson added "Any time you lose your first game of the season it's

hard to deal with and it would've been special to go undefeated through the regular season. But our goal of being Centennial Conference champs is still intact. We really look to bounce back this week with our best week of practice and focusing on the task at hand, which is beating McDaniel."

The Jays have the chance to secure an automatic bid into the upcoming NCAA playoffs and have already clinched a share of the Centennial Conference title. With a win this weekend against McDaniel, Hopkins can secure the conference championship outright and claim a bid into the NCAA tournament. Despite the disappointment of this past weekend's loss, Hopkins remains one of the most feared opponents in the Centennial Conference and look to be the biggest challenge for opposing teams heading into the NCAA Playoffs.

Water Polo bests old rival GW in 20T

WATER POLO, FROM B12

Since the team has harbored what captain Crow refers to as "a fierce rivalry" the victory meant a lot to the team and boosted morale about not making the Eastern Conference this year.

Despite the early loss to Mercyhurst, the Jay's minds were eased by their performance against rival George Washington later on in the tournament. Beal noted, "The loss to Mercyhurst was a disappointment, but the way we rebounded from it was a tribute to our teams dedication. Even though we got knocked down early, we were able to pull ourselves together to finish the season with three good wins."

Sophomore Henry Pfleger summed up the feeling of the tournament when he said, "with our loss to Mercyhurst on Friday night, many thought we'd given up. But we did the opposite. We rebounded and went on to finish off the weekend with three wins."

M. and W. Swimming start a combined 8-1

By MITCH WEAVER
For The News-Letter

On November 2nd and 3rd, the Hopkins men's and women's swimming team competed in the Thomas Murphy Invitational at Loyola University. The men's team brought their 'A' game, defeating Loyola 249-96 while also beating Marywood 281-65. The team swept all five relays, and came out victorious in 15 of the 20 total events.

In the 400 Medley Relay, Hopkins took the top two spots, with the team of Dylan Davis, Gideon Hou, Carter Gisriel and Will Kimball coming in first with a time of 3:27.91. Taking the second spot was the team of Dylan Coggin, Joe Acquaviva, Greg Kogut and Nick Schmidt at 3:32.24.

In the 500 Free, Freshman Billy Gravely came in second with a time of 4:44.89. When asked about the meet, Gravely was very happy with the team's performance and was optimistic about the team's future in the water. "I feel like the whole team did great," he said. "We put a decent margin between us and Loyola,

and we did a really great job in the 100 and 200 butterfly. A lot of our team is getting to where they need to be to get ready for our conference opponents and nationals."

In the 100 butterfly, the Jays took the top four spots, led by Schmidt. The 200 Butterfly ended with JHU at the top two spots, led once again by Schmidt.

On the women's side, the Lady Jays enjoyed the same success against Loyola (207-150) and Marywood (276-67), but could not sweep the meet, losing to St. Francis 192-139. In the 400 Medley Relay, Taylor Kitayama, Sammi Fox, Kylie Holden and Ana Bogdanovski placed first for the Lady Jays, posting a time of 3:59.72. The Lady Jays took the top two spots in the 200 IM, with Kitayama and Fox taking the top spots. In the 200 Free Relay, Megan Auzenbergs, Kylie Ternes, Sarah Rinsma and Bogdanovski came in a close second place to St. Francis, finishing with a time of 1:38.79, 0.21 behind.

Auzenbergs was pleased with the gutsy performance by her fellow teammates.

"It was a meet that taught us how to swim through pain and fatigue," she said. "We're at a point where our training is at its maximum intensity, so this meet taught us how to swim smart. This meet will definitely help us come out on top in the end."

Auzenbergs also touched on the adjustments the team has had to make this season. "We have a new approach to training and it has been a positive adjustment. (The meet) was a grind, and it says a lot about the strength of our team because we were definitely not at our best but we managed to come out on top."

For the weekend, the girls posted three relay victories out of the 5 events: the 400 Medley, the 800 Free-style, and the 200 Medley. Kitayama had an especially impressive day, posting two NCAA provisional times. The first came in the 100 Back, while the second came in the 200 Back.

Both the men's and women's swimming teams are having plenty of success. The men

are 4-0 this year, with imposing wins coming over Rowan, Franklin and Marshall, Loyola and Marywood. The women are also having a great year, posting a 4-1 record with wins against the same teams as the men.

The next event for the men and women is November 17-19 in Piscataway, NJ. The Blue Jays will be competing in the Frank Elm Invitational, and will then close the month in Gettysburg, PA at the Final Fall Fast Festival. That will end the 2012 season for the team, and the team will pick up again in January 2013.



FILE PHOTO

Hopkins has gotten off strong in the pool behind a deep competition.



KELLY STANDART/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

A 2-1 defeat ended Hopkins' seven year reign over the Centennial.

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK CHRISTINA CONVEY - WOMEN'S SOCCER

By ERICK SUN
Sports Editor

Within the past seven seasons, the Blue Jay women's soccer team has taken the Centennial Conference crown all seven times. However, against a hard-nosed Haverford team, 2012 would fail to see Hopkins win their 8th straight conference title.

Despite their disappointing 2-1 loss to the Fords in the Conference Final, junior midfielder Christina Convey provided a spark for the Blue Jays in their run through the Conference tournament with three goals over the two game span.

Against Swarthmore in the tournament opener, Convey would strike twice within five minutes in the first half to propel the Lady Jays to a 3-1 win over the Garnet.

Her first goal came off of a feed from sophomore Hannah Kronick, but it was Convey's deft footwork that finished the play.

Slipping past the aggressive Swarthmore goal-tender, Convey's quickness put her in front of an emp-

ty net for the goal.

Just five minutes later, Convey would strike once again, this time on a rebound sent into the upper left corner to give Hopkins a 2-0 lead early in the game.

The goal would prove to be the game-winner in the team's 3-1 victory.

Against Haverford in the Conference final, Convey continued her hot streak for the second straight day.

In just the sixth minute of the game, Kronick connected with Convey again who fired a shot from 20-yards out past Haverford goaltender Robin Chernow to give Hopkins

On the season, Convey has been a steady contributor for head coach Leo Weil. Through the team's 17 games, Convey has been in the starting lineup for all 17.

In fewer games this season, Convey has already matched last season's goals total of five, while eclipsing her freshman season's assist total of four.

But perhaps her 59 shots on goal is most illustrative of her offensive impact for the team.

Her soccer acumen and skill have consistently placed Convey in the right spots on the field to generate scoring opportunities, either for herself or her teammates. And her development as a player has shown on the stat sheet with more starts every season she has been at



COURTESY OF HOPKINSPORTS.COM
Convey is second on the team with 59 shots this year.

VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Christina Convey
Year: Junior
Hometown: Roslyn Harbor, NY
Major: General Engineering
Key Stats: 5G, 4A, 59Sh

a 1-0 lead.

Unfortunately, Convey's goal would be the lone tally for the Blue Jays in a heartbreaking 2-1 loss.

Frank Take: NHL's reoccurring nightmare

By FRANK SCHIFF
Sports Editor

The question every hockey fan wants answered: will there be an NHL season this year? My take: no. Want to know why? Because, well, we've seen this before.

Its really that simple.

It's true, the issues that have caused both lockouts differ. In 2004, the divide between NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and Bob Goodenow, the executive director of the NHL Players' Association, was clearly apparent. The core issue surfaced over the construction of the salary cap, with each side stubbornly resisting any form of compromise.

The war that commenced was bitter and agonizing.

"What happened eight years ago," Bettman recently said, "is something that none of us ever want to go through again." (NHL.com)

And that's the sentiment from the commissioner. Imagine how brutal it must have been for the players. They lost a year off their careers, millions in salary, and were forced to eventually sign a deal which gave them a 24 percent salary rollback. Ultimately, they lost an entire season for nothing.

Fast forward to 2012 and

the owners remain the antagonists, taking directions from their inflated egos, a GPS that announces, "my way or the highway!"

Most crucially, the owners have proven they care about money over everything, including the consequence of losing NHL fans.

Currently, the owners feel there are too many paramount issues in the

throughout the league at an increasing rate.

Where are the players through all of this? Well, those that are not playing hockey overseas must be sitting at home entranced in a cloud of deja-vu.

Once again, they find themselves victims at the hands of their owners. The stoppage has occurred because the players, those in the NHL and in the minor league

the owners and players, has been utterly duped. All that talk proved to be hot air, and, simply put, a second lockout in the past eight years is a disgrace for the NHL and for its fans.

The 2004 lockout set the league back astronomically. Ticket sales diminished, T.V. ratings plunged, and there was a distinct pain within every true NHL fan who felt abandoned.

Remarkably, over the last eight years, the league had made a distinct comeback.

Thanks to some thrilling playoffs match-ups within the past few years and a new generation of stars, T.V. ratings and ticket-sales have risen from the dead. Hockey was finally coming back around.

Just when the scar of 2004 had sealed itself and healed, the owners ripped it right back open.

However, within the last three days, there has been optimistic talk of re-negotiations.

Yet, that doesn't change the fact that the lockout remains in the hands of the owners. And those hands are firmly clenched in a fist.

In other words, don't get your hopes up — remember, we have taken a ride on this Zamboni before.



COURTESY OF NEIL R. VIA FLICKR
Bettman and the NHL owners once again have tied up negotiations.

collective bargaining agreement (CBA), despite witnessing NHL's revenues grow to 3.28 billion dollars annually. One of their principle concerns is the need to protect against the front-loaded, long-term contracts that continue to pop up

systems, don't want to see their salaries diminished and want their rightful cut of NHL's revenue.

Sadly, any player who trusted Bettman in 2005, who, after completing the newly minted CBA, spoke of a powerful "new partnership" between

Volleyball moves on to the NCAA tourney

By COLIN FRIEDMAN
Sports Writer

After finishing up the regular season with a seven game win streak, the Hopkins women's volleyball team entered the conference tournament primed to take on Swarthmore College. However, any hopes for a normal week of practice were erased after Hurricane Sandy rolled through the region. Even with the aftermath of the hurricane, The Jays knew they needed to come in ready to play.

The Garnet came out strong holding the Blue Jays to a .222 hitting percentage. Despite Swarthmore's effort, Hopkins prevailed to win the first set 25-20. In the second set the Blue Jays took control. Swarthmore was held to a measly .067 hitting percentage. Hopkins hammered away 15 kills to win 25-18. In the final set Hopkins used 11 kills to close out the match 25-15. Freshman star Jasmine Warmington had a match-high 15 kills while Amelia Thomas recorded 15 digs. A big congratulation goes out to Swarthmore's Allison Coleman. She recorded 20 assists on Saturday to break the school's all time assist record. Jasmine Warmington credited the Blue Jay's success to "coming out strong and not allowing ourselves to get quiet on the court."

The victory sent Hopkins into Sunday's conference championship against #1 seed Franklin & Marshall. The Blue Jays were highly motivated, having suffered their only conference loss to the Diplomats.

Hopkins came out strong, using a .314 hitting percentage to take the first set 25-17. An impressive 9-1 run allowed them to jump ahead 17-8 and cruise to victory. Freshman Gabi Rothman credited the team's strong passing: "we've been working on defense and serve receiving for the past two weeks. The only we can run our strong hitters is with good defense." The second set was much tighter as the Diplomats used rallies to even the score 18-18. However, the Blue Jays fired back with a three point rally to eventually win the set 25-22.

In the third set the Blue Jays got down early. It was the first time Hopkins had trailed the whole match. Warmington commented, "We came together and focused on the next point and I think that's what helped us rally back when we were down." The match was eventually tied 15-15 before a Katie Schwarz kill sparked a 8-1 run. The Blue Jays never looked back as Warmington crushed a kill

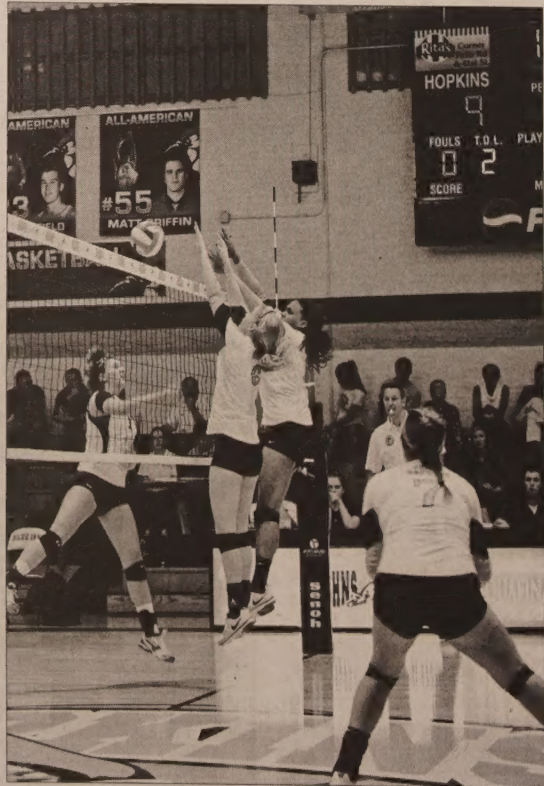
at 24-19 to send Hopkins into the NCAA Tournament.

Warmington, recently named Conference Player of the Year, a feat even more remarkable given the fact this is only her first season of collegiate ball, led the match with 14 kills while Schwarz added nine kills and 12 digs. Freshman Carolyn Zin also dished out a team-high 19 assists. Warmington described herself as "Absolutely ecstatic! I love being a part of this team and I'm so excited to give it my all as we try to make history this next weekend." With the win Hopkins became the first Centennial conference team to knock off a top seed since Haverford bested Gettysburg in 2008.

The win gave Hopkins their second consecutive Centennial Conference title. Also, by finishing the regular season with 29 wins the Blue Jays set a new school record. Next up for the Blue Jays is the first round of the NCAA Division III Volleyball Championships. Hopkins will focus on continuing to play at a high level. Their strong defense has been spot on and will certainly be a key to success. Warmington also added "strong defense allows all of our hitters to improve." The improvement of the team's hitters has allowed Hopkins to utilize their middles more. This addition is a supplement to Hopkins already dynamic offense.

In next week's NCAA action the Blue Jays will face off against Richard Stockton College. The Ospreys are recent winners of the New Jersey Athletic conference. Nonetheless, this matchup appears favorable for Hopkins. Richard Stockton has had trouble against other Centennial Conference opponents, pulling off narrow victories against Haverford and Franklin & Marshall. The Ospreys also dropped a recent match to Cabrini College, a team the Blue Jays swept earlier in the year.

No matter the opponent, Hopkins will come out ready to play. The young and energetic team is certain to be amped for the match. Warmington stated "I'm looking forward to going on to the NCAA's. Knowing any game could be your last is a great motivator. It inspires you to give each point your all. I'm excited to see how far our team can go." The motivated, and recently christened MVP, will do everything it takes to extend their senior leaders careers. With such enthusiasm the Blue Jays look primed to continue their winning ways.



FILE PHOTO
The women's volleyball team will move on to the NCAA Tournament.

BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD			
Men's Soccer Nov. 3, 2012 Hopkins vs. Swarthmore L, 3-0	Women's Soccer Nov. 3, 2012 Hopkins vs. Swarthmore W, 3-1 Nov. 4, 2012 Hopkins vs. Haverford L, 2-1	Wrestling Nov. 4, 2012 Hopkins @ West Virginia L, 43-0 Hopkins @ Maryland L, 40-6	Women's Volleyball Nov. 2, 2012 Hopkins @ Swarthmore W, 3-0 Nov. 3, 2012 Hopkins @ F&M W, 3-0
Water Polo Nov. 3, 2012 Hopkins @ Mercyhurst L, 11-8 Hopkins @ Salem W, 21-5 Hop @ Notre Dame OH W, 17-10	Football Nov. 3, 2012 Hopkins @ F&M L, 14-12	M. Swimming Nov. 3, 2012 Hopkins vs. Marywood W, 281-65 Hopkins vs. Loyola W, 249-96	W. Swimming Nov. 3, 2012 Hopkins vs. Marywood W, 276-67 Hopkins vs. Loyola W, 207-150 Hopkins vs. Saint Francis L, 192-139

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

With their 14-12 loss to F&M, the Hopkins football team had a 22-game regular season winning streak snapped which had spanned all the way back to the 2010 season.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY
Volleyball vs. Richard Stockton, 5:30 PM

SATURDAY
X-Country @ NCAA Regionals, 11AM
Football vs. McDaniel, 12PM
W. Soccer vs. Lancaster Bible, 5PM

M. Soccer falls just short of CC title game

By SYDNEY TENG
Staff Writer

While most students were preparing for Halloween festivities last Wednesday night, Hopkins men's soccer played the most exciting game of their season with a dazzling overtime win against Franklin & Marshall (F&M). Defeating F&M in regular season play 1-0, Hopkins had the home field advantage once more in the conference playoffs.

With the student section roaring in support, Hopkins wasted no time in taking it to the Diplomats. Junior Gus Ingaglio had a quality look at goal in the 11th minute with a 15-yard strike that skimmed off the post and out of bounds. Chances went back and forth in the first half, evident by the 10-7 shot count slightly in favor of the opponent, F&M caught a lucky break in the 19th minute with a scuffle in the six-yard box. Long throws have given the Blue Jays some issues in the past, and would prove to be a problem this evening as well. After winning the header off the throw, the ball found the feet of Diplomat Jared Bomba as he tapped it past sophomore keeper Nick Cerrone.

Not to be discouraged by the sloppy goal, the Jays pushed on, getting another close opportunity in the 25th minute. Free kick specialist Ian Heinrich powered a shot through the wall from the left hand corner of the 18-yard box, which ricocheted off the gloves of the keeper. Freshman Josh Hong was there for the rebound, but was unable to convert as the ball sailed wide.

Diplomat pressure picked up from this point, with a harrowingly close call in the 38th minute. Coming off another long throw, a well placed Diplomat header forced Cerrone to make a fantastic save with a tip over the cross bar. Facing a 1-0 deficit going into halftime, the Blue Jays refocused themselves for the next half.

From the restart, it was clear that the home team had the momentum. Despite the score, Hopkins demonstrated confident possession of the ball, utilizing their core center midfielders. As seen with the shot count, the Blue Jays edged out the Diplomats 7-5 in the second half, on top of earning the only corner kick of the half.

Sophomore outside midfielder Kotaro Mitsuhashi's footwork was nothing short of a spectacle, creating space in impossibly tight situations to get a handful of shots off. Similarly, freshman sensation Ian Heinrich continued to light up the Diplomat defense with quality shots, including an amazing volley attempt in the second half that just flew over the cross bar.

With the clock winding down, Heinrich was able to release a cross deep into F&M territory. Scrambling to get on the end of it, the first two shots were blocked by the keeper, before finally finding the back of the net when junior Danny Reategui struck the decisive blow in the 84th minute. Electrifying the crowd, Reategui forced the overtime.

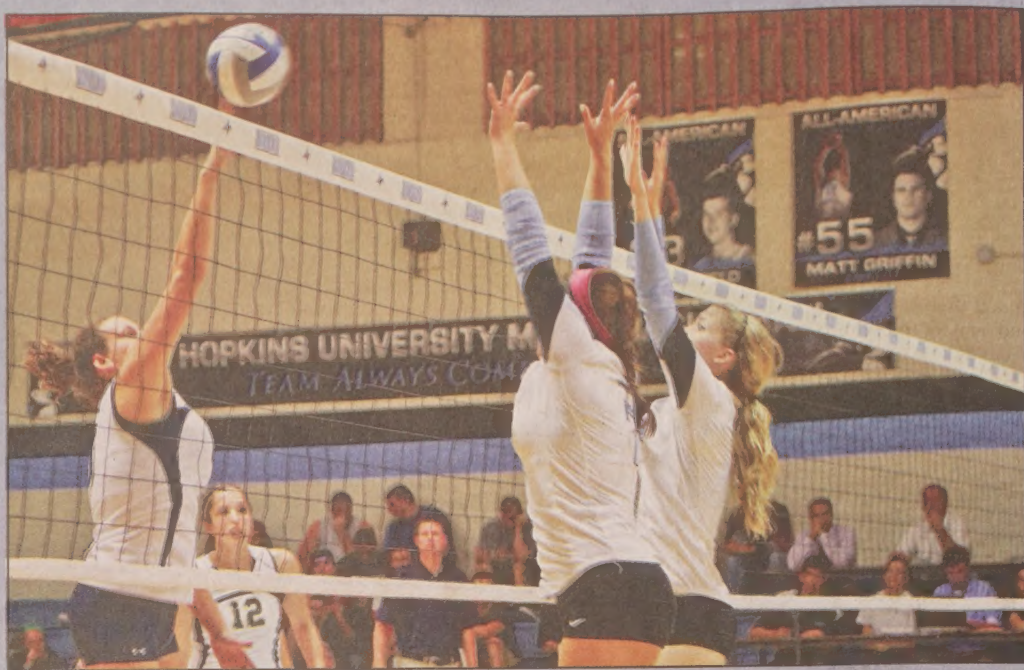
Amped up and ready to go, senior Brandon Sumpio

wasted no time in securing the slot to the semifinals with a once-in-a-lifetime volley. Reategui sent in a cross that was initially deflected out, but Sumpio headed the ball away from the goal, giving the impression that he was going to settle it and then send the ball back in. However, the senior ripped a volley from the most unlikely angle with his back to the goal. The F&M keeper dove in vain as the ball found the inside of the far post.

Ending his career on Homewood field with that historic golden goal, the entire team rushed the field to congratulate the senior.

Unfortunately, the season would end for men's soccer only a few days later with the disappointing loss on the road to Swarthmore. The Garnet was too much for Hopkins to handle as relentless pressure and cheeky footwork caused the defense to crack twice in the first half and again at the beginning of the second. Even though the result was a 3-0 victory for Swarthmore, Hopkins left it all on the field and earned the right to hold their heads high at the conclusion of their season.

Volleyball wins Centennial Conference crown



FILE PHOTO

Behind Conference Player of the Year Jasmine Warmington, the Hopkins volleyball stormed through Swarthmore and Franklin & Marshall in straight sets to claim the Centennial Conference title. Next up, the NCAA Tournament on Friday. Please see page B11 for full coverage.

INSIDE

Football: First Loss in 2 Years

A stout Franklin & Marshall defense stuffed the normally potent Blue Jay offense, bringing down the Goliath of the Centennial Conference for the first time in 20 games. **Page B10**

Athlete of the Week: Christina Convey

In the CC Tournament, junior midfielder Christina Convey chose to play her best when it mattered most for the women's soccer team, scoring three goals in two games. **Page B11**

NHL Lockout: A Sad Case of Deja-Vu

Despite going through a crippling lockout just eight years ago, it looks as if the NHL is headed towards another lost season as owners and players fail to compromise. **Page B11**

INSIDE

Blue Jays take on DI competition

By ASHLEY MILLETTE
Staff Writer

Over the weekend, the Hopkins wrestling team headed to College Park, Md. to participate in the annual UMD Terrapin Duals.

Facing off against much larger, Division I schools like West Virginia and Maryland, Hopkins put up a good match despite coming up short of what they had hoped for.

The Blue Jays first faced off against the West Virginia Mountaineers with a few very close matches but a disappointing loss of 43-0.

Sophomore Paul Bewak and junior Henry Stauber both narrowly missed wins, with Stauber conceding to his opponent only after overtime came into play.

The Jays did considerably better when facing Maryland, earning their only six points of the day when sophomore Christian Salera won by default off a UMD injury.

Bewak and Stauber both held their own, and both also lost by small margins. The final score against UMD was 40-6.

Hopkins also had a less-than-satisfactory meet at

the Messiah invitational on Saturday, placing ninth out of nine teams.

But while the Blue Jay wrestling team may be off to a rough start, the future is looking bright.

Pre-season they were ranked 18th in the nation, the best ranking the program has ever received. Four of the Jays, Paul Bewak, Reid Mosquera, Henry Stauber and Paul Marcello also ranked in the nation's top ten.

One of the highlights of this weekend's matches was Evan Krumheuer's performance in the Messiah invitational.

Garnering two pins before losing out to a fourth-seeded opponent, Krumheuer had one of the best showings for the Jays.

"We battled hard this weekend against some very good opponents," Krumheuer said. "For the part of the team wrestling at the Messiah tournament, we went in and did what we could against a good lineup of fellow Division III teams. I think everyone learned a lot about what they are doing well and what they still need to work on for this season. For the rest of our guys wrestling at Maryland, the story is much the

same. They fought against some of the best guys in the country and showed that a Division III team can still hang with Division I teams.

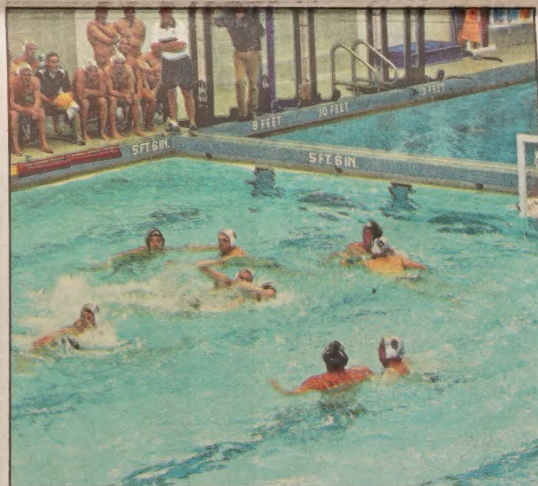
Despite the hard loss the Jays faced, Krumheuer said he's optimistic about the team's future.

"[The loss] tells us that we can't rest on our laurels and that we have a lot of work to do if we want to reach our end of the season goals," Krumheuer said. "Our motto this year is 'Finish.' We may have had a bit of rough go of it this weekend, but we have confidence that we will be at our peak level of performance when the time is right in February and March."

Looking toward the rest of the season, Krumheuer cited some of the team's chief goals.

"Our team has set high goals and is looking to not only repeat as Centennial Conference Champions, but also to be one of the top teams in the country with a high placement at the National Championships in March," he said.

The next Hopkins wrestling match is this Saturday, when Hopkins travels to Wilkes University to compete in the John Reese Duals.



FILE PHOTO

It was a senior showcase for Hopkins water polo this weekend.

Schofield sets new Blue Jays goal scoring mark

By ALANNA OLKEN
Staff Writer

The Hopkins water polo team came in fifth place at the Southern Championship this weekend. The Blue Jays finished the season with a school record 25 wins and nine losses. Given their fifth place finish in the tournament, the Blue Jays will not advance to the CWP Eastern Championship for the first time in seven years despite their strong overall record.

In the first game against the Mercyhurst Lakers, the team suffered a tough loss 11-8. Senior Kielan Crow had a strong game, however, scoring three goals, while senior Alex Whittam saw the back of the net twice. Senior Ross Schofield, sophomore Johnny Beal and junior Stephen Kingery each scored one goal apiece. Sophomore goalkeeper Danny Ovelar saved four goals in the first half while freshman keeper Erik Henrikson stopped five shots in the second.

In response to the frustrating loss, the Blue Jays

dominated Salem International 21-5 the following day. Hopkins jumped into the first quarter and scored an impressive nine goals, compared to just one for the Tigers, and continued to stay in the lead throughout. During the game, Schofield scored his 100th goal, tying a school record set in 2004. For the game, Schofield scored a total of five goals. Whittam, Crow, juniors Thomas de Lyon Conor Fleming, and freshmen Garrett Davidson and Blake Range all chipped in two goals a piece.

Following the victory, the Jays then went on to top the Notre Dame (OH) Falcons 17-10. The victory put them in the fifth-place match.

In the match, the Jays took on George Washington, overpowering them in an extremely close match 16-15. The game went into double overtime, making for an exciting match-up against their long-time rival. Schofield and Crow scored six goals apiece while Kingery had a school-record-tying six assists.

SEE WATER POLO, PAGE B10



FILE PHOTO

Hopkins wrestlers began their season with a challenge facing off against top Division I competition.